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Science

CHAPTER: 9 How animals move

Today's Topic: Revision of the previous chapter

* Bones play an important role in not only giving shape to the body but also along with muscles, help vertebrates in moving their limbs. They also protect the inner organs.

* The human skeleton is made up of a collection of bones of various sizes joined together in various ways to form the skull, the backbone, ribs, collarbone, hip bones and the bones of the hands and legs.

* Joints occur where two bones meet. The human body can perform more than one kind of motion because it has joints.

* Bone joints can be of many types, depending on the type of movement they allow.

* The bones at a joint are moved by alternate contractions and relaxations of two sets of muscles.

* Earthworms move through soil by the means of waves of muscular contractions that alternately shorten and lengthen its body.

* A snail moves by creeping on a flat, thick structure at the base of its body, which is made of a strong muscle. It is called its 'foot'.

* The body of a cockroach is protected by a hard covering called an exoskeleton. It has two pairs of wings for flying and three pairs of legs for walking.

* Fish swim by exerting force against the surrounding water by alternately curving the body and tail in one direction and then the other, thus imparting a wavy motion to the body and pushing it ahead.

* Most snakes slither on the ground by alternately flexing the body to the left and to the right.

* A bird's body is highly adapted and streamlined for flight. Birds have very powerful breast muscles that power the wings and help them fly.

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