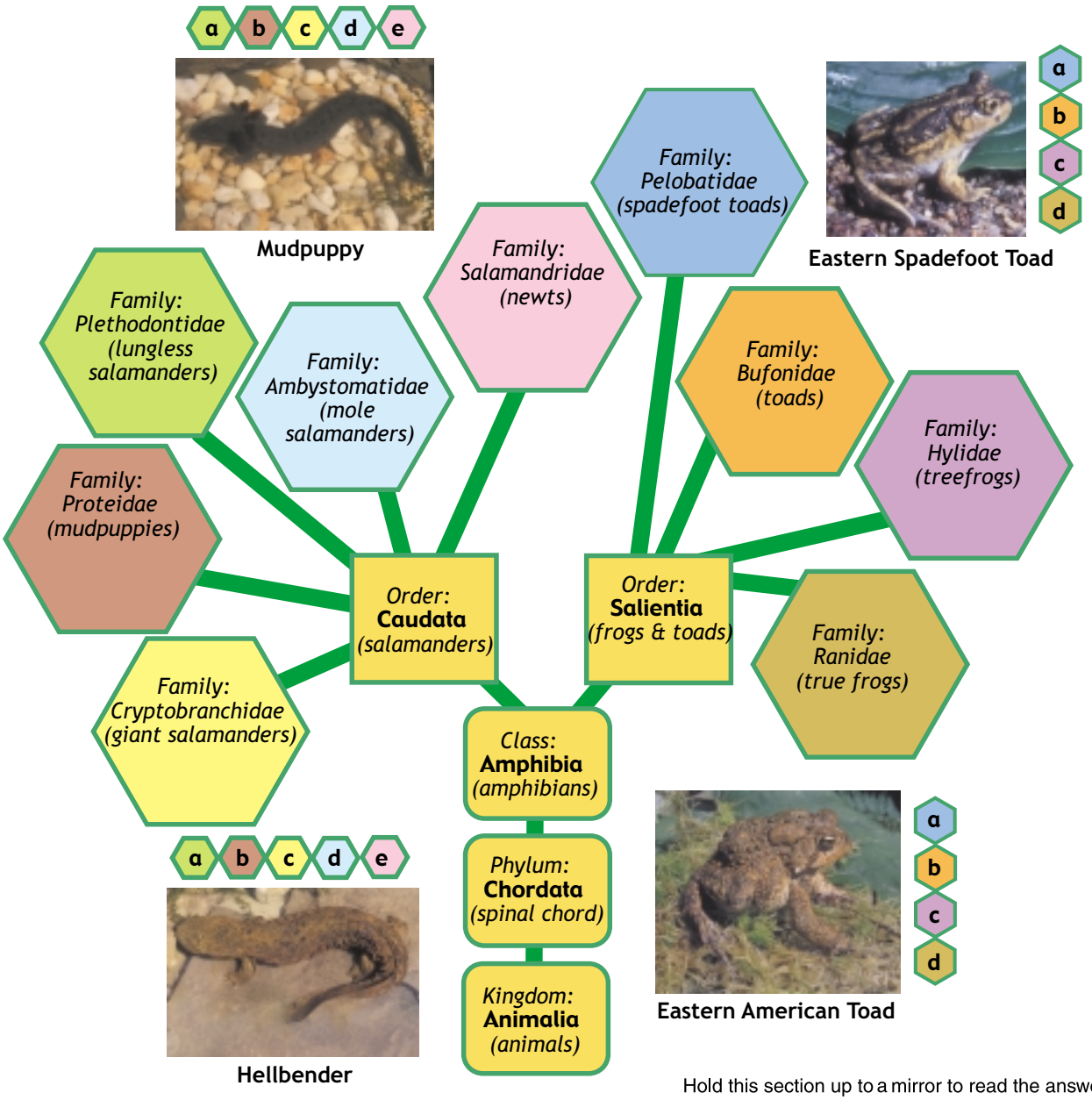
PA Amphibian Family Tree

In a previous issue of PLAY ("Introduction to Reptiles"), you learned how taxonomy organizes and names living things. Scientists use the same system to classify all animals, including amphibians. Amphibians are grouped by their physical traits, body functions, genetics and other features. Let's see how good you are at recognizing some traits that may occur in each amphibian family.

There are around 38 amphibians that call Pennsylvania their home. Help some of them find their place in the taxonomic tree by using the color shown for each family's tree limb. Place an "X" in the color that puts them in the correct place on the tree.



Hold this section up to a mirror to read the answers.

Mudpuppy - B Hellbender - C

Eastern Spadefoot Toad - B Eastern American Toad - B