



FIGURE 9.18. Phylogenetic relationship of some of the major animal (**metazoan**) groups. The deuterostomes plus protostomes combined make up the so-called Bilaterian animals, which have the property of bilateral symmetry (although it can be argued that Cnidaria have clear indications of bilateral symmetry as well). Based primarily on molecular phylogenetics, the Protostomes are further divided into two large clades known as the Ecdysozoa and the Lophotrochozoa.