

ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS

REFERENCE POSTER

An **adaptation** is a feature that helps an animal survive, find food, avoid danger, and reproduce in its environment.

TWO TYPES OF ADAPTATIONS

STRUCTURAL

Physical features of the body.



Example:
A bird's beak shape.

BEHAVIOURAL

Actions or behaviours an animal does.



Example:
Birds migrate to warmer places.

WHY ADAPTATIONS MATTER



Help animals survive in their environment.



Help animals find food and water.



Help animals avoid predators and danger.



Help animals reproduce and pass on their genes.

EXAMPLES OF ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS

ANIMAL	HABITAT	STRUCTURAL ADAPTATION	BEHAVIOURAL ADAPTATION	HOW IT HELPS
 Polar Bear	 Arctic (very cold)	Thick fur and a layer of fat (blubber). 	Stays near sea ice to hunt seals. 	 Keeps warm and helps it find food.
 Camel	 Desert (hot and dry)	Humps store fat. Long eyelashes and closable nostrils. 	Active at night to avoid the heat. 	 Saves water and stays cool.
 Platypus	 Freshwater (rivers and lakes)	Webbed feet for swimming. Bill for finding food. 	Forages underwater for insects and small animals. 	 Helps catch food and move easily.
 Fennec Fox	 Desert (hot and dry)	Very large ears release heat. Light-coloured fur. 	Lives in burrows during the day. Active at night. 	 Keeps cool and avoids the heat.
 Penguin	 Antarctica (very cold)	Layer of fat and waterproof feathers. 	Huddle together to keep warm. 	 Stays warm and protected from cold.

THINK LIKE A SCIENTIST



OBSERVE

What do you notice about the animal?



QUESTION

What might this animal need to survive?



THINK

What adaptation helps it survive in its environment?



RECORD

Write or draw your ideas.



SHARE

Explain your ideas and listen to others.