

Animal Adaptations

GUIDING QUESTIONS

These questions will help guide you in creating your project. You can use a variety of resources to research an animal of your choice. Make sure to cite your sources for information, photographs/illustrations and videos.

- What is the animal that I have observed (in-person or video)?
- Where does this animal live?
- What are three physical adaptations for the animal you chose?
- In what ways do these physical adaptations help the animal survive and/or thrive?
- What behavioral adaptations does this animal do to help it survive and/or thrive?
- What other animals have similar adaptations?
- What adaptations are different but might help an animal in a similar way?
- Are there any adaptations that the animal has, but doesn't use for the intended purpose? (example, flightless birds)
- What are three fun facts about your animal?

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Predator/Prey — What adaptations do each of them have that counter the other's? For example: American kestrel and voles; voles hide in burrows, but run from one entrance to another eliminating urine; kestrels can see ultraviolet light which the urine trails reflect.

- Think about herbivores and plants too and the counter adaptations.

Are there color, size or pattern differences within a species?

- Males and females
- Juveniles and adults
- Individuals living in different regions

Reproduction strategies:

- Mammals: Marsupials, Placental and Monotremes — Compare the advantages and disadvantages of these strategies.
- r species vs. k species — Compare how much time do parents invest in their offspring. What are the advantages or disadvantages to each strategy?