

Vocabulary List – Science – Animal Adaptations

08/28-09/01

1. **Adaptation**- A body part, body covering, or behavior that helps an animal survive in its environment.
2. **Behavioral Adaptation** – actions animals take part in in order to survive. Ex: the opossum plays dead or a rabbit freezes when it thinks it has been seen.
3. **Physical Adaptation** – Body structures that allow animals to find and consume food, defend itself, and reproduce. Ex: Claws, Venom, Tails
4. **Camouflage** - A color or shape in an animal's body covering that helps it blend into its environment.
5. **Environment/Habitat** - Everything that surrounds and affects a living thing. This area includes non-living things, such as water and air, as well as other living things.
6. **Instinctive Behavior** - A behavior an animal is born with and does not have to learn, a natural reaction or response
7. **Learned Behavior** – A behavior or action that an animal learns in order to survive in its environment
8. **Mimicry** - An adaptation in which an animal copies another. One examples is a harmless animal looks like a harmful animal in order to protect itself.
9. **Predator** - An animal that hunts and eats other animals for food.
10. **Prey** - An animal that is taken and eaten by another animal for food.
11. **Survive/Survival** - Using adaptations to continue to live.
12. **Hibernation** – An adaptation that allows animals to survive harsh winter weather by lowering their body temperature and heart rate and sleep for a long period of time.