

ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS / LESSON OVERVIEW

Objectives

The students will:

- understand the concept of adaptations;
- connect knowledge of habitats to specialized adaptations;
- develop skills in creative writing;
- and learn how an animal's adaptations will affect its basic needs.

Lesson Summary

Part 1. Introduction to Adaptations (10 – 15 minutes)

- Define adaptation and learn how all organisms have adaptations for survival.

Part 2. Types of Adaptations (10 – 15 minutes)

- Learn about physical and behavioral adaptations.

Part 3. Adaptations and the Environments (15 – 25 minutes)

- Connect knowledge of habitats to animals and their specialized adaptations.

Activity. 1. Create a Shark (45 – 60 minutes)

Students will use their knowledge of adaptations to create their own original shark to present to the class. Each student will choose either real world adaptations, or come up with their own to create a shark that is uniquely suited to their chosen environment.

Handout 1. Create an Original Shark Story

After completing a shark poster, Students will use and develop their creative writing skills by creating a story about their original shark. They will detail where it lives and how it uses its special adaptations to survive in its environment.

Materials

- Poster board
- Notebook paper
- Pencil, colored pencils, crayons, and/or markers
- Tape or glue