

Adaptations



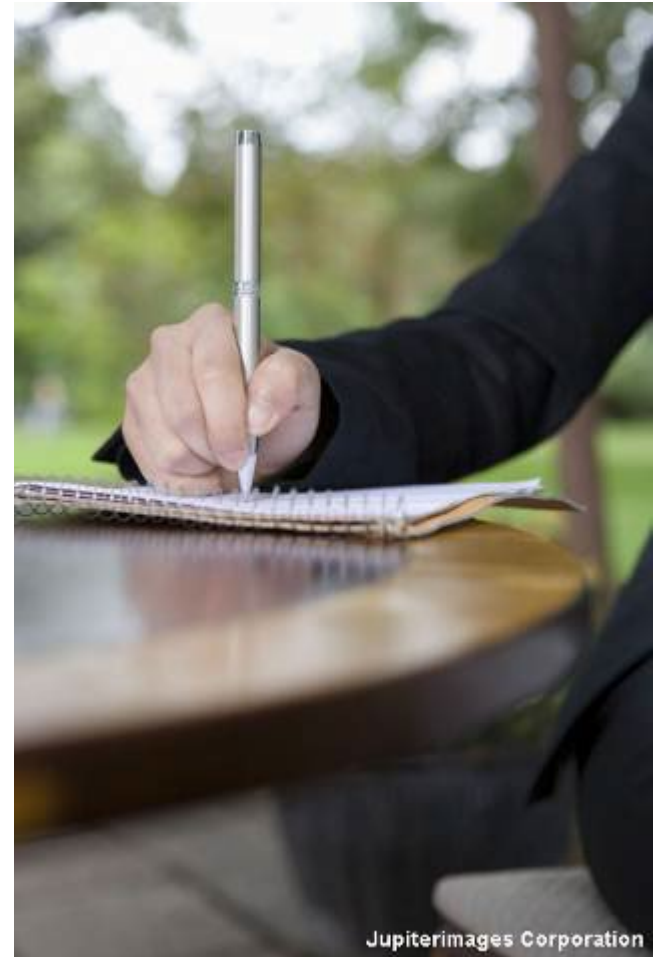
What are adaptations?

Each type of organism has special features that help it to survive in its particular habitat. These special features are called **adaptations**.

For example, you have plenty of adaptations to survive in your habitat. Your fingers are an excellent adaptation – without the ability to grip, you would not be able to do all that schoolwork!

Some adaptations are obvious while others are not so obvious.

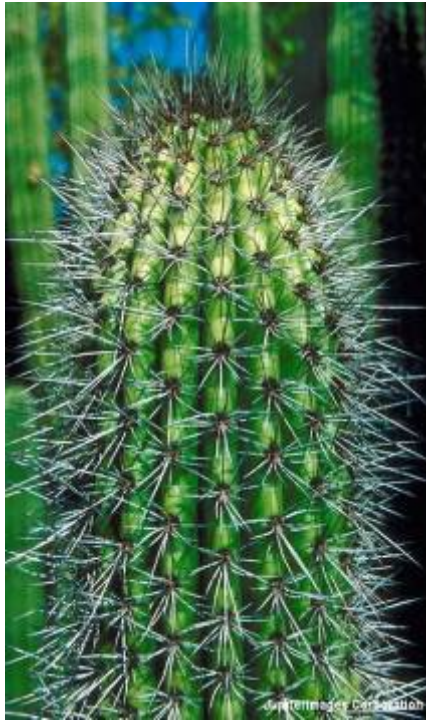
Can you think of any other adaptations that you have?



Adaptations in different habitats

These organisms are all adapted to their environments in very different ways.

How are they specially adapted to survive?



What adaptations do these animals have?



claws

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What is the function of each adaptation?

excellent sight

long eyelashes

sharp teeth

mane

large ears

trunk

to manipulate food

to protect eyes from dust

to make the animal look bigger

to grab and kill prey

to detect prey

to control body temperature



solve

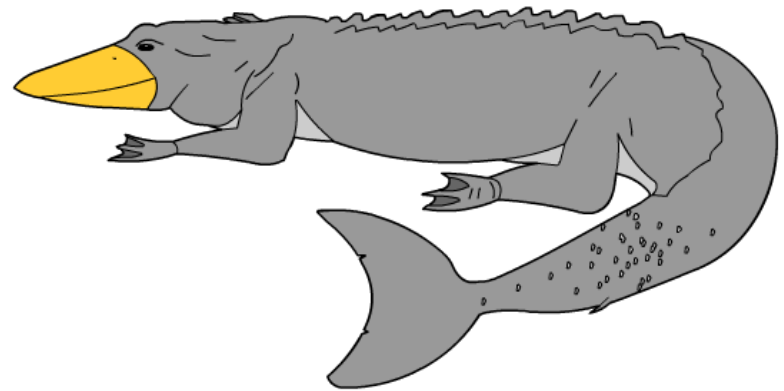


A new species...

Scientists have discovered this strange new species on a small island off the coast of Argentina.

The scientists want you to help them describe:

- where this animal lives (land, water or air)
- what it eats and how it eats
- how it breathes
- how it moves
- what they should call it.



Since the organism is adapted to its environment, you should be able to use the way it looks to answer all of these questions. Don't forget to give your organism a name!



Daily adaptations

Many features of the environment change on a daily basis, such as the temperature and the amount of light.

For example, many flowers open their petals during the day to catch the sun and close them at night to protect against the early morning frost.

Organisms are adapted to the type of habitat they live in and also to the daily changes that occur in that habitat.



Yearly adaptations

The environment also changes on a yearly basis with the seasons. This may bring about changes in light and temperature, but also in the availability of food and water.



Organisms have to adapt to these yearly changes. They have come up with many different ways to achieve this.

For example, some animals hibernate during winter to deal with food shortages.

Are these adaptations daily or yearly events?

1.	Birds migrate to warmer areas.	
2.	Some trees lose their leaves.	
3.	Some predators hunt at night.	
4.	Animals grow thicker coats.	
5.	Some flowers rotate on their stalks to track the Sun.	

daily

yearly



solve

