

Animal Adaptations

Classroom Program for Grades K-2

Program Description: We play hide and seek as a fun game, but many animals play hide and seek to survive! This highly interactive program uses pictures, props and live animals to introduce students to the many colorful ways animals blend into their environment. Everyone gets a chance to create their own camouflaged critter to take home.

Lesson: Learn about protective coloration of animals and their struggle for survival.

Conservation Message: All life on Earth exists as part of an ecosystem.

Curriculum Objectives:

Tennessee students will apply the following **Science Curriculum Performance Indicators:**

- ◆ The students will identify the characteristics that enable a specific plant and/or animal to survive in its environment.
- ◆ The students will identify groups of similar organisms (i.e., plants and animals).
- ◆ The students will identify an organism that belongs in a specific environment.

Georgia students will apply the following **Science Performance Standards:**

- ◆ Students will compare the similarities and differences in groups of organisms.
- ◆ Students will investigate the characteristics and basic needs of plants and animals.
- ◆ Students will communicate scientific ideas and activities clearly.

Alabama students will apply the following **Science Course of Study Content Standards:**

- ◆ Compare size, shape, structure and basic needs of living things.
- ◆ Describe survival traits of living things, including color, shape, size, texture and covering.
- ◆ Identify characteristics of animals, including behavior, size, and body covering.

Additionally, all students will apply the following **National Science Education Content Standards:**

- ◆ Develop an understanding of organisms and their environments.
- ◆ Develop an understanding of changes in environments.
- ◆ Develop an understanding of characteristics of organisms.



Animal Adaptations

Activity Sheet

Match the vocabulary words to the appropriate picture.

Adaptation - any change in an animal, such as a beaver's flat tail that makes it better able to survive in its habitat.

Camouflage - blending in with the surroundings to hide.

Countershading - color pattern found in sharks, frogs and hawks where it is dark on the top of the body and blends to a lighter color on the bottom.

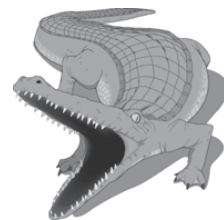
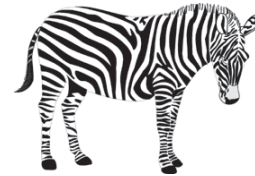
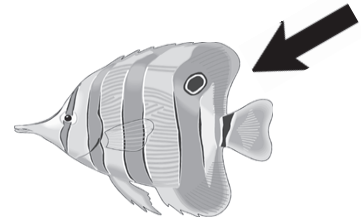
Disruptive Coloration - color patterns such as the zebra's stripes or the jaguar's spots that help break up the body shape making it harder to recognize in the environment.

Eyespot - round dark spot resembling an eye found on many animals such as fish, turtles and insects and is used to confuse predators.

Habitat - a place where an animal lives and can find food, water, shelter, and space.

Predator - An animal that eats another animal. Alligators, eagles, bears, snakes and frogs are all predators.

Prey - An animal such as a rat or mouse that gets eaten by another animal.



Answers can be found on our Website at
http://www.tnaqua.org/KidsTeachers/Program_descriptions.asp

