

McGraw-Hill Reading WonderWorks

Interactive Worktext



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Education



Talk About It

Weekly Concept **Adaptations**



Essential Question

What helps an animal survive?

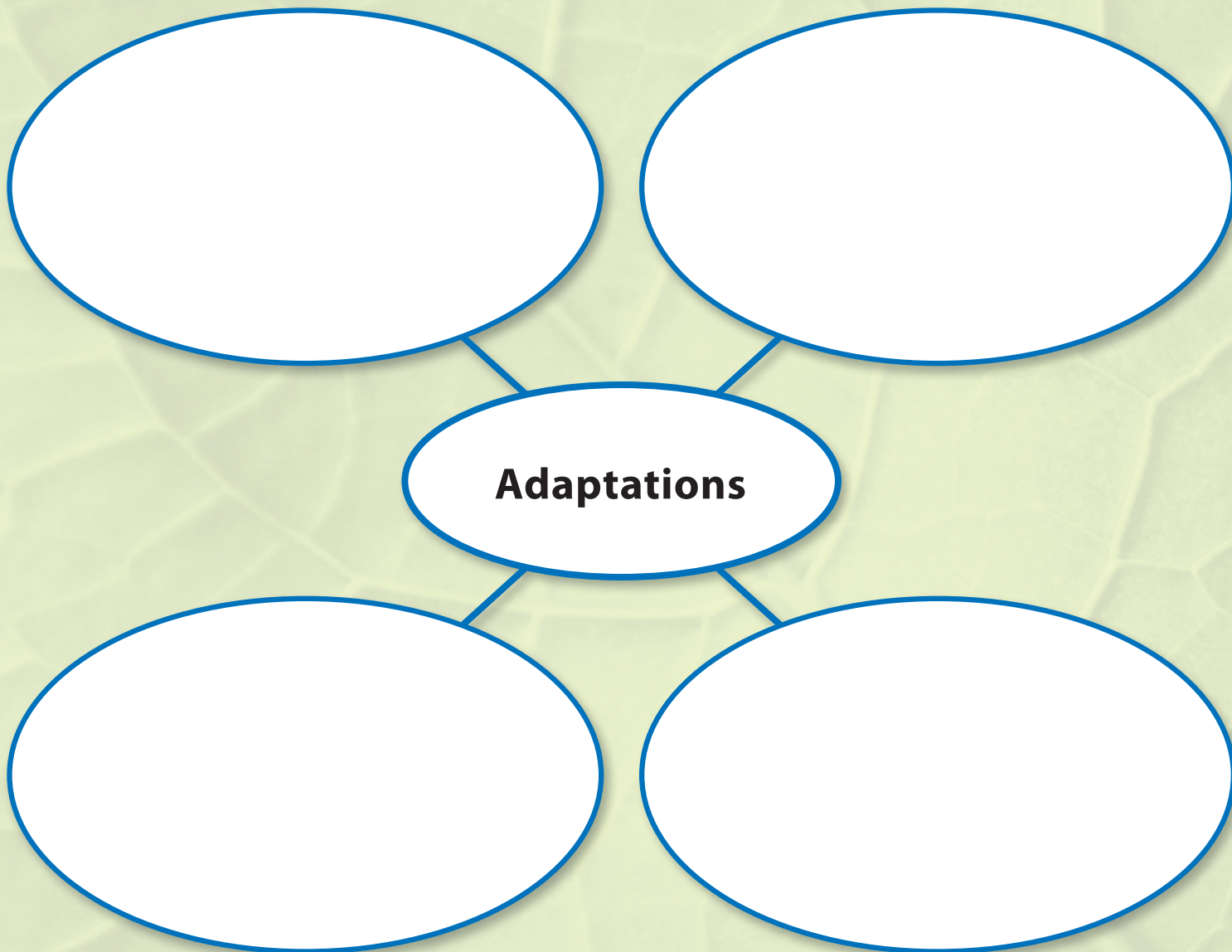


Go Digital!





Write words that describe the adaptations that help animals and insects to survive.



Tell about an animal and its adaptations.
Use the words you wrote above.



Vocabulary



Work with a partner to complete each activity.

1 camouflaged

Why is it hard to see a *camouflaged* insect?

2 dribbles

Read the words below. Circle the antonym for *dribbles*.

drips gushes trickles

3 poisonous

Underline the root word in *poisonous*.

Circle the suffix, *-ous*.

What does *poisonous* mean?

4 pounce

Show what a cat looks like when it *pounces* on a toy mouse. Use your whole body.

5 predator

List two *predators* that you have read about or seen on TV.

6 prey

Which of these might be a cat's *prey*?

tree bird rock

7 vibrations

Which of these things would cause the most *vibrations*? Circle the answer.

closing your eyes beating on a drum

8 extraordinary

Imagine an *extraordinary* animal. Think about how it looks. Now draw a picture of this *extraordinary* animal.



High-Utility Words

Homophones

Homophones are words that sound the same but are spelled differently. They also have different meanings.

Circle the homophones in the passage.

Butterflies from everywhere live in the butterfly house. It is like their natural habitat there. I studied one I'd read about that had red wings. When it closed its wings, it looked like a leaf. Then a new butterfly arrived on the scene. I'd seen it in a book and knew it was a swallowtail.





This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no text or other markings on the paper.

Animal Adaptations



What helps an animal survive?

Read about ways different animals adapt to their environments.

Text Evidence

1 Expand Vocabulary

A **harsh** temperature is one that is extremely hot or extremely cold. **Underline** the text that tells you how birds avoid *harsh* temperatures.

2 Comprehension Main Idea and Key Details

Reread the section, "Staying Warm." **Circle** key details that tell why caribou are able to stay warm.

3 Sentence Structure **ACT**

Reread the last paragraph. In the last sentence, what word does the pronoun *it* stand for? **Draw a box** around the word. What do the words *them* and *they* stand for?

What would you do if you saw a skunk lift its tail? Hopefully, you would run! Skunks have protection. They can blast a **predator** with a stinky spray from under their tails.

Animals have special ways to survive called adaptations. Adaptations can be physical ones such as the skunk's spray. Some animals have bright colors. The colors warn predators that they are **poisonous**. Some animals can sense **vibrations** in the ground. Others can hear sounds from far away. Adaptations can also affect behavior. Birds fly south every winter. They do this to avoid **harsh**, severe temperatures.

Staying Warm

Imagine living in the Arctic tundra. The usual temperature is an **extraordinary** 10 to 20° F. This is the home of the caribou. To stay warm, caribou have two layers of fur. Under the fur is a layer of fat. Caribou have compact bodies. Only 5 feet long, caribou can weigh over 500 pounds.

The caribou's nose and mouth is covered in short hair. This hair warms the air before it goes into their lungs. It keeps them warm as they push snow aside to find food.



A skunk's smelly spray can travel up to 10 feet.

Text Evidence

1 Expand Vocabulary

When things **decline**, they become less. **Underline** the sentence that tells what caribou do when their food sources *decline*.

2 Sentence Structure ACT

Reread the last sentence of the first paragraph. **Draw a box** around the part of the sentence that tells when it is time for the caribou to return up north. What word in the sentence signals time?

3 Comprehension Main Idea and Key Details

Reread "Insects in Disguise." **Circle** key details that tell you about phasmids' adaptations or special features.

Finding Food

Every day, a caribou eats over six pounds of lichen! Caribou have unusual stomachs. They are designed to digest lichen. Lichen is one of the few foods they can find in winter.

But even caribou have a tough time in the coldest part of winter. Their food sources **decline**. They have to leave the tundra and go to large forest areas. Food is easier to find there. When the melting snow **dribbles** into streams, they can return up north.



Lichen grows in cold temperatures.

Insects in Disguise

Look closely at the picture of the tree branch. Can you spot the insect? It is a phasmid. Some phasmids are also called leaf insects or walking sticks. They look like leaves or twigs. These insects can change colors. They blend in with their surroundings so they are **camouflaged** from predators. They disappear! Phasmids are active at night. This helps them avoid predators, too. They are hard to spot in daylight. They are even harder to spot at night.

This phasmid is called a walking stick. It looks like a stick with legs.



Text Evidence

1 Expand Vocabulary

To be **brutal** is to be severe or very unpleasant. **Draw a box** around the animal that can survive this *brutal* dry season.

2 Sentence Structure ACT

Reread the last sentence on the page. **Circle** the phrase that tells the reader that this is the end of the article.

3 Comprehension Main Idea and Key Details

Reread the last paragraph.

Underline the sentences that tell why it is dangerous for the animals to visit the water holes. Why do animals go to the water holes, anyway?

An alligator's log-shaped body is an adaptation. It's hard to spot an alligator in the water.

Water, Please!

In the Florida Everglades, the dry season is **brutal** for many plants and animals. Alligators have a way to survive the harsh dry season. They use their feet and snouts to clear dirt from the holes in bedrock. The holes can then hold water. So when the ground dries up, the alligators drink from their water holes.

Other species use these water holes, too. Plants grow there. Other animals find water there. Animals that visit the alligator holes are easy **prey**. The alligator may **pounce** on them without warning. But alligators only eat a few times each month. So, the animals take their chances. They visit the alligator holes when they need water. In the end, it's all about survival!



Respond to Reading



Discuss

Work with a partner. Read the questions about “Animal Adaptations.” Use the discussion starters to answer the questions. Write page numbers to show where you found text evidence.



? Questions

Discussion Starters

Text Evidence

1 How do caribou stay warm in the Arctic tundra?

- ▶ Caribou stay warm because...
- ▶ I also read that...

Page(s): _____

2 How does having an unusual stomach help the caribou survive ?

- ▶ A caribou's stomach...
- ▶ I also read that lichen...

Page(s): _____

3 Where do caribou go in the winter?

- ▶ Caribou go...
- ▶ I noticed that...

Page(s): _____



[illegible]



Write About Reading



Shared Read

Topic Sentence

Circle the topic sentence.
What is Tandi going to write about?

Evidence

Draw a box around the evidence that Tandi includes.
What other information from "Animal Adaptations" would you include?

Concluding Statement

Underline the concluding statement. Why is this sentence a good wrap up?

Read an Analysis

Photographs and Captions Read Tandi's paragraph about "Animal Adaptations." She writes her opinion about how well the author uses photographs and captions.

Student Model

In "Animal Adaptations,"
I think the author did a good job
using photographs and captions.

The text tells about how
skunks protect themselves
with a bad smelling spray.

The photograph shows a skunk with its tail up.
It looks like the skunk will spray. The caption says
that a skunk's spray can go as far as 10 feet. The
photograph and caption gave me more information
about the skunk. I liked the fact that this detail is
not in the text.





Leveled Reader

Write an Analysis

Text Features

Write an Analysis **Text Features** Write a paragraph about “Extreme Animals.” Tell your opinion about how well the author uses photographs and captions.

Topic Sentence

- ☐ Include the title of the text you read.
- ☐ Give an opinion about how well the author uses photographs and captions.

Evidence

- ☐ Give an example of a photograph and caption.
- ☐ Make sure your example supports your opinion.
- ☐ Explain how the photograph and caption help you understand the text.

Concluding Statement

- ☐ Restate your opinion.