

Adaptations and Natural Selection Task Cards

Includes the following:

- Natural Selection
- Instinct vs. Learned Behaviors
- Adaptation examples
- Key Vocabulary



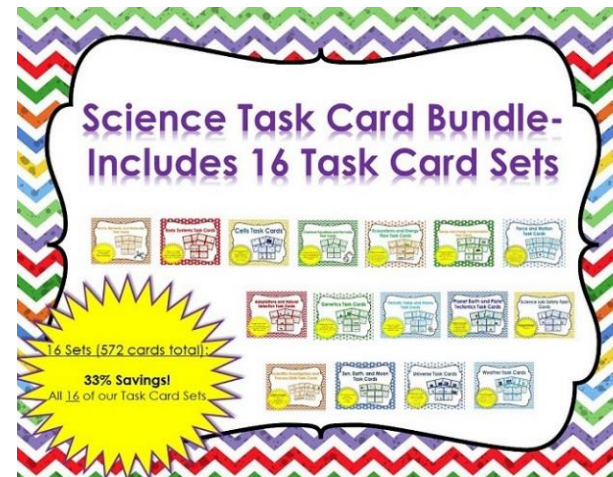
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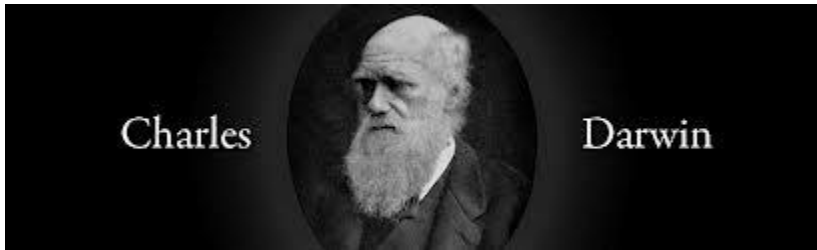
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Adaptations and Natural Selection

1

Describe Charles Darwin's Theory of Natural Selection.



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2

Charles Darwin studied many new species and their adaptations. On which group of islands did he complete most of his research?



Adaptations and Natural Selection

3

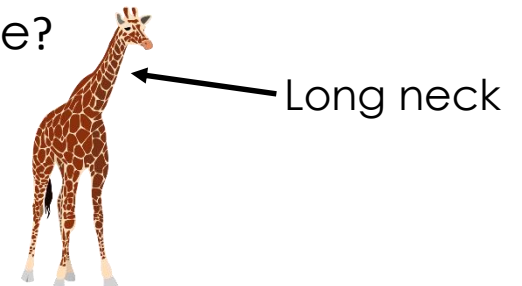
On the Galapagos Islands, Darwin observed that finches had different shaped beaks depending on which island they lived on. What did Darwin conclude about the beaks of the finches?



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4

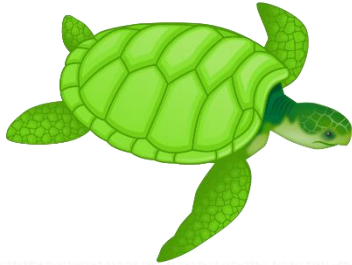
What is the term used to describe a characteristic that helps an organism survive in its environment and reproduce?



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5

What is the term used to describe a behavioral pattern that an animal is born with? List one example.



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6

Teaching a dog to roll over for a treat is an example of which type of behavioral pattern?

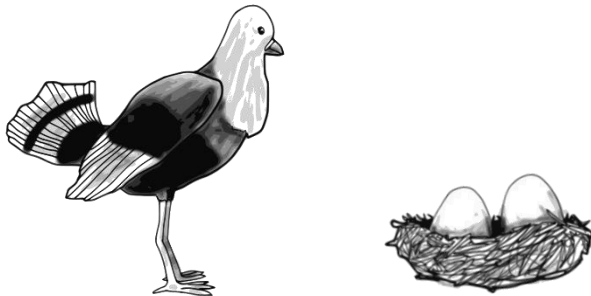


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7

Instinct or Learned Behavior?

A bird building a nest.

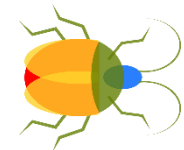
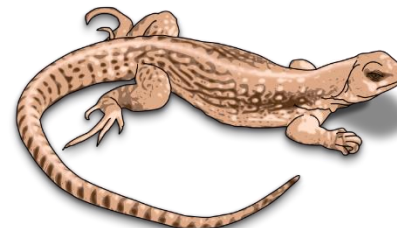


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8

Instinct or Learned Behavior?

A lizard becoming ill after eating a poisonous insect.



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9

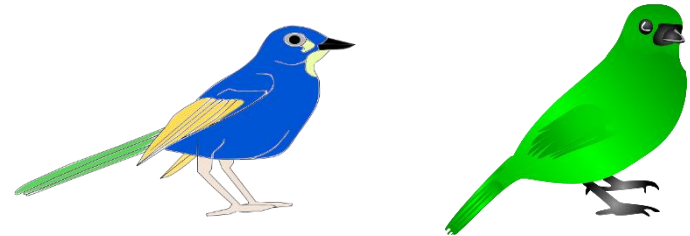
What is the term used to describe a behavioral pattern that occurs when an animal greatly reduces their activity during the winter?



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10

Many types of birds will fly south for the winter. What term describes this journey?



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11

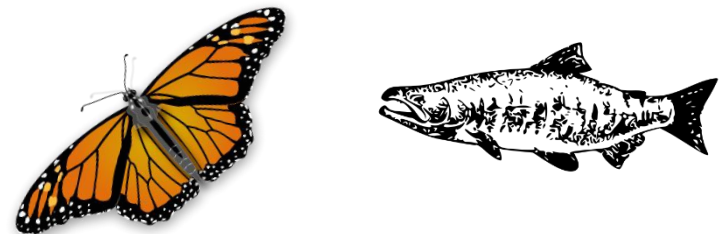
Why do animals such as a hedgehog hibernate during the cold winter months?



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12

Why do many different species migrate each year?



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13

A walking stick insect blends in with its environment. What term describes this adaptation?



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14

How does camouflage benefit an organism?



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15

What is the term used to describe when one organism tries to look like or resemble another organism?



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16

The Monarch butterfly is foul tasting and poisonous to many birds if eaten. Why do you think the Viceroy butterfly mimics the Monarch's color pattern?



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17

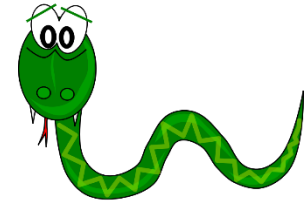
An organism that naturally hunts another organism for food is called a _____?



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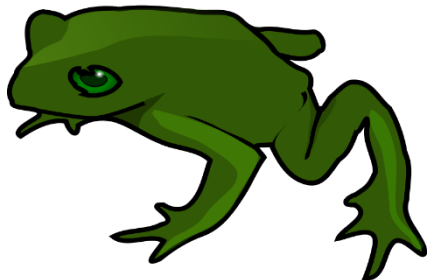
An organism that is hunted and killed by another organism for food is called _____?



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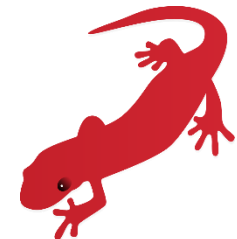
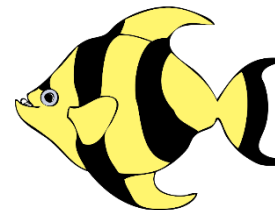
What adaptation would help a frog both catch its prey and avoid its predators?



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20

Why do some organisms like fish and amphibians produce many more offspring than other organisms?



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21

The disappearance of all members of a species is called _____.

- A. migration
- B. hibernation
- C. niche
- D. extinction



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Raccoons living in cities have learned to open lids of garbage cans. This is an example of an animal _____.

- A. behavioral adaptation
- B. structural adaptation
- C. physiological adaptation
- D. selectively breeding



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Describe what might happen if an organism's one main food source disappears.



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24

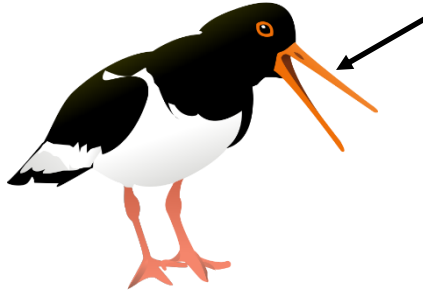
List one organism and describe all of its adaptations.



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25

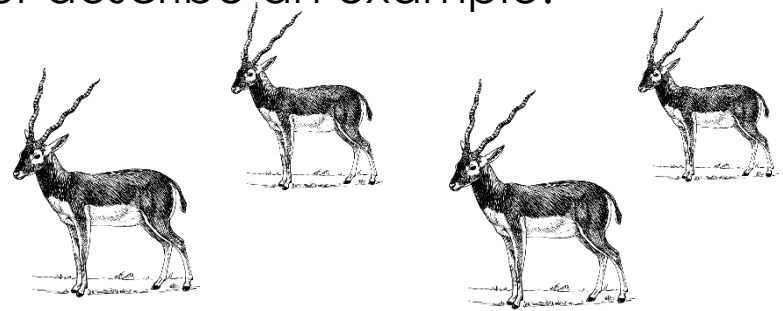
What is a structural adaptation? List or describe an example.



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What is a behavioral adaptation? List or describe an example.



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27

What is a physiological adaptation? List or describe an example.

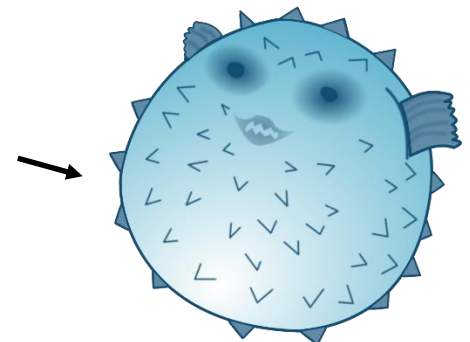


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Identify the picture below as a structural, behavioral, or physiological adaptation.

Puffing up when threatened



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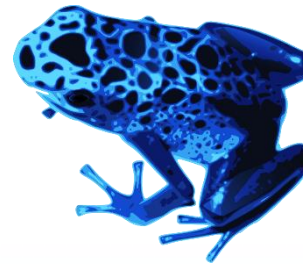
Identify the picture below as a structural, behavioral, or physiological adaptation.



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30

Identify the picture below as a structural, behavioral, or physiological adaptation.

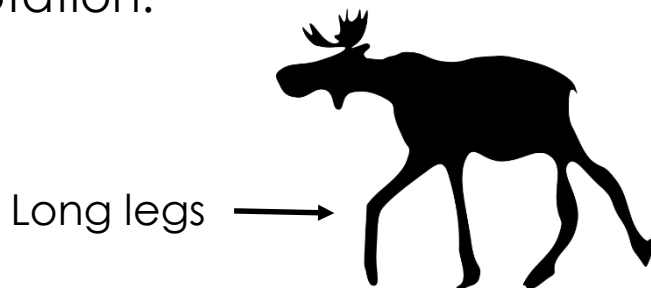


Produces poison to secrete from skin

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31

Identify the picture below as a structural, behavioral, or physiological adaptation.



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32

Identify the picture below as a structural, behavioral, or physiological adaptation.

Dances to attract a mate



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Name: _____

Date: _____

Adaptations and Natural Selection: Task Card Answer Sheet

1.	9.	17.	25.
2.	10.	18.	26.
3.	11.	19.	27.
4.	12.	20.	28.
5.	13.	21.	29.
6.	14.	22.	30.
7.	15.	23.	31.
8.	16.	24.	32.

Adaptations and Natural Selection:

Answer Key

1. Organisms that are better suited for their environment are more likely to survive and reproduce (Survival of the Fittest)	9. Hibernation	17. Predator	25. Physical features of an organism that help it survive (ex. bird's beak)
2. Galapagos Islands	10. Migration	18. Prey	26. The way an organism acts in order to help it survive- can be instinctive or learned (ex. migration)
3. The beaks of the finches were different shapes and sizes to suit the diet of the birds on the different islands.	11. Difficult to find food during cold months	19. Green color to blend in with its environment	27. Allows an organism to perform special functions within the body (ex. metamorphosis)
4. Adaptations	12. Mating, follow food source, warmer climates	20. Increase the odds of offspring surviving to adulthood.	28. Behavioral
5. Instinct (ex. newly hatched sea turtles walking toward sea immediately)	13. Camouflage	21. D	29. Structural
6. Learned behavior	14. Allows an organism to blend in with its environment in order to hunt or avoid being hunted.	22. A	30. Physiological
7. Instinct	15. Mimicry	23. The organism will eventually have trouble surviving and reproducing.	31. Structural
8. Learned	16. Birds might think it is a Monarch and not eat it.	24. Answers will vary (ex. Polar Bear- white fur to blend in, sharp teeth, sharp claws, thick fur, black skin to absorb heat, etc.)	32. Behavioral