

Title: Who Are You and What Is That?

Objective: Learn or review specific physical adaptations of animals

Time: 10 minutes

Materials Needed: Animal Adaptation Cards (Blackline master on CD)

Directions:

1. Use the background information to describe a physical adaptation to students.
2. Give an example using the Animal Adaptation Cards as a reference.
3. Give pairs of students an animal and its adaptation. Pairs discuss how they could demonstrate this physical adaptation using a charade.
4. Students stand in a circle. One or both students from the first pair go to the middle of the circle and demonstrate their adaptation with a charade.
5. Another student or pair steps into the circle and asks, "Who are you and what is that?"
6. The student(s) in the middle gives the name of the animal and its adaptation and then returns to the circle.
7. The student or pair that just asked the question now demonstrates its adaptation with a charade. Continue around the circle until each pair has acted out their adaptation.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some examples you have experienced in change of environment? (Example, did you move from a warmer place to a colder place?)
2. How have you adapted to your environment?

Variation

* Students with prior knowledge can select their own animals without referring to cards.

Activity

Suggested Season: Any

Suggested Grade Level: 3-5

Indoors or Outdoors: Indoors

Theme: Animal Adaptations

Topic: Physical Adaptations

Standards Addressed:

Science: 1.4.1.1.1; 1.4.2.1.1.; 1.4.2.1.2.; 3.4.1.1.1.; 3.4.1.1.2.; 3.4.3.2.1.; 3.4.3.2.2.; 5.4.1.1.1.; 5.4.2.1.2.; 6.1.3.1.1.; 6.1.3.1.2. ; 7.4.3.2.3.

Language Arts: K.I.B.; K.II.B.; K.III.A.; 1.III.A.; 1.III.B.1.; 2.III.A.; 3.III.A.1.; 3.III.A.2.

Math:

Social Studies:

Background Information:

- Animals depend on their physical features to help them obtain food, build homes, keep safe, and tolerate weather. These physical features are called physical adaptations.

Additional Resources:

- http://www.ecokidsonline.com/pub/eco_info/topics/climate/adaptations/index.cfm
How fast can you match up animals' adaptations? Test yourself with this online quiz.
- <http://www.harcourtschool.com/activity/animalneeds/>
Students match up the animal's adaptation with the need it fulfills.

Correlates with:

Greeting – Adaptation Match

News and Announcements – Animal Adaptations

				
Uses long beak to catch fish	Puffs its body to scare away predators	Runs quickly to catch prey with long, skinny body	Reaches leaves high on trees with its long neck	Keeps cool with long ears
				
Reaches from tree to tree with its long arms	Tears meat with its hooked beak	Hears approaching enemies with good ears	Protects itself with spines	Stores fat in hump to use when food is scarce
				
Hangs onto trees with large gap between first and second finger	Keeps warm in water with fur	Captures prey with toothlike projections	Chews wood in water with front teeth that protrude	Stays on top of ice with large feet that spread out weight