



MINNESOTA ZOO™
Changing how you see the world

Animal Adaptations

Grades 1-3

Onsite and Post-visit

MN Graduation Standards supported:

Grade K Strand 1.B

The student will raise questions about the natural world.

Grade 1 Strand 1.B

The student will raise questions about the natural world, make careful observations and seek answers.

Grade 2 Strand IV.C

The student will understand that organisms live in different environments.

Vocabulary:

Adaptation: A characteristic of a living thing that makes it better suited to survive in a particular environment.

Physical Adaptation: A physical characteristic that helps the animal better suited to survive in a particular environment. An example would be the blubber in a whale, keeping it warm and storing energy.

Introduction:

There are many different animal adaptations found in nature. Through this assessment, students will compare the different adaptations of animals and how these specific adaptations help the animals survive in the wild.

Objectives:

The student will:

1. Write about or draw animals with particular features that aide in the animal's survival.

Procedure:

Materials Needed:

Copies of the Animal Adaptations 1-3 grade worksheet
Pencil

1. Distribute the Animal Worksheet to the students.
2. Inform students they will be completing the handout to reinforce the concepts of adaptations.
3. Complete worksheet during visit at the Zoo.
4. Discuss answers back in class.

Options: Teacher can assess students individually or as a collaborative assignment.

Links:**Behavioral Adaptation:**

The way an animal behaves that makes it better suited to survive in a particular environment.

For example, some instincts are behavioral adaptations.

Adaptation Games

<http://www.harcourtschool.com/activity/animalneeds/>

http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco_info/topics/climate/adaptations/index.cfm

Animal Adaptations**Quiz**

http://www.netrover.com/~3384mary/quiz_science/animals/quiz1.html

Animal Adaptations**Flashcards**

http://whyfiles.larc.nasa.gov/text/educators/activities/2001_2002/athome/animal_adapt.html