

Animal Adaptations Vocabulary Builders

Adaptation: a part of an animal's body or something the animal does that helps the animal survive in its habitat

Camouflage: structural adaptation that involves an individual's external appearance, color, and/or shape, allowing it to blend in with its surroundings and avoid predators; protective color or pattern

Carnivore: animal that eats mostly meat

Counter-shading: protective coloration in an animal or insect where areas exposed to light are darker in coloring and areas that are normally shaded or dark are lighter in coloring

Diurnal: an animal that is diurnal is one that is mainly active by day

Feature: a characteristic or distinguishing trait, quality or property

Habitat: an area in which a plant or animal lives

Herbivore: animal that eats mostly plants

Hibernation: the act of passing the winter or a portion of it in a state of sleep

Migration: this occurs when birds or other animals travel distances in seasonal movements (for example, Canada geese migrate, or fly south, during the winter)

Mimicry: when one living thing is shaped, colored and has other features in order to resemble another

Nocturnal: an animal that is nocturnal is one that is mainly active at night

Omnivore: animal that eats both plants and animals

Predator: an animal that catches and eats other animals

Prey: an animal that is caught and eaten by other animals