

Learning Objectives

After viewing this film, students will know...

- 1) Animals have basic needs that have to be met in order for them to survive and reproduce. These needs are...
 - Food
 - Water
 - Oxygen
 - Climate= the weather of a place averaged over many years.
 - Protection from predators
 - Shelter = a place where an animal is protected from other animals or from the weather.
 - Reproduce and raise young
- 2) Animals survive because each species has specialized characteristics or features that provide them with ways to meet their needs in whatever environment or habitat they live. These characteristics are call adaptations.
- 3) An adaptation may be a physical part of an animal or a particular behavior that it exhibits.
 - Body parts are called physical or structural adaptations.
 - Behaviors are called behavioral adaptations. There are two types:
 - Instinctual (know “naturally” without being taught)
 - Learned (must be taught)
- 4) Symbiosis is a type of adaptation involving two types of animals living in a close relationship. There are three kinds:
 - Parasitism
 - Commensalism
 - Mutualism

- 5) If an environment changes significantly, an animal must move, change or die.

Suggested Activities

- 1) Before viewing the video, brainstorm with the students the basic needs of humans--what we must have in order to survive in this world. Review list after viewing.
- 2) Brainstorm behavioral adaptations (or physical adaptations) of an animal the students are familiar with, such as a pet. Classify the behaviors as learned or instinctual.
- 3) Pair up the students. Direct them to choose a habitat, then brainstorm various animals that live there. For each animal, list an adaptation which enables it to survive there. After each adaptation, write which basic need it fulfills and whether the adaptation is physical or behavioral. (Books with photos of animals of various habitats would be helpful.)

Vocabulary

- Habitat** – the living and nonliving things which make up an animal’s surroundings and from which it must meet its basic needs
- Climate** – the usual patterns of weather conditions of a place
- Adaptation** – a special feature or behavior that helps an organism survive
- Herbivore** – a plant-eating animal
- Carnivore** – a meat-eating animal
- Omnivore** – an animal which eats both plants and other animals
- Incisors** – cutting teeth that are in the front of the mouth, used to bite off grass or leaves

- Molars** – flat, grinding teeth that are used for chewing plant fibers
- Canines** – sharp teeth helpful in grabbing and tearing animal flesh
- Instinct** – a special automatic behavior that helps an animal meet its basic needs
- Hibernation** – a deep sleep, usually during cold, harsh weather, in which the animal’s breathing and heart rate slow to reduce the necessity of eating
- Migration** – travel to areas where food is more abundant and the weather is warmer. After the winter, the animals will return to their original areas
- Camouflage** – protective coloration or shape
- Mimicry** – when one animal mimics or copies another animal, plant, or even rock
- Symbiosis** – when two organisms live closely together with one benefiting from the relationship and the other is unharmed or also benefits
- Parasitism** – when one organism feeds on and lives on or in another animal (called the host)
- Commensalism** – when one organism benefits from living closely with another animal that is unaffected
- Mutualism** – when two organisms live closely and both benefit from the relationship
- Warm-blooded** – animals that maintain a particular internal body temperature despite external temperature variation
- Cold-blooded** – animals whose body temperatures vary with the external temperatures

