

What are adaptations?



Adaptations are traits that an organism adopts to survive their environment.

Hibernation, migration, camouflage, mimicry, defences and locomotion are types of adaptations that animals have adapted to survive.

Adaptation may lead to evolution. Woodpecker's have adapted to avoid brain injury.

Finches from the Galapagos Islands have developed different sized beaks in order to find food in their unique environment.

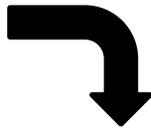
Inheritance

These are characteristics that are passed on to offspring from their parents.

Adaptation

Over many generations, a species will adapt to its environment because the animals with the most successful characteristics are more likely to survive and pass on these characteristics to their offspring.

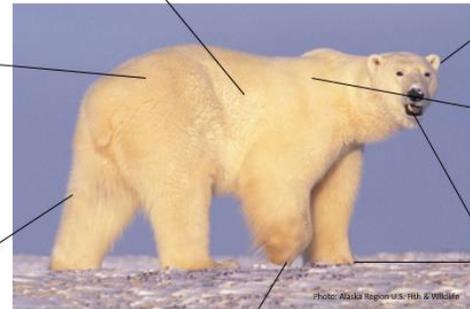
Polar Bear habitats are rapidly changing. What future do they face?



White fur to camouflage from prey on the snow and ice

Small ears to reduce heat loss

Thick layers of fat and fur to insulate against the cold



Greasy coat to shed water after swimming

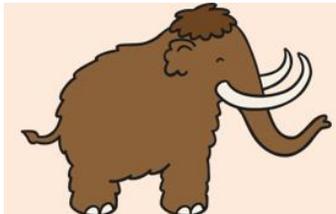
Sharp claws and teeth for catching and eating prey

Strong legs for swimming and running

Fur on the soles of their feet for insulation and gripping on the ice

The Peppered Moth is an example of how species have evolved in recent years. The trees the moths live on became darker in colour during the Industrial Revolution and this meant the white moths stood out and were eaten and the darker moths survived. This is an example of natural selection. This example helped scientists prove Darwin's theories.

How do fossils give us information about things that lived a long time ago?



Fossils give us evidence to tell us about animals from the past. The age of a fossil tells us how long ago something lived and show us how animals have adapted over time.

Fossils are the preserved remains or traces of once living animals and plants.

Vocabulary Tier 2

- Environment
- Inherited
- Species
- Fossils
- Traits
- Natural Selection



Vocabulary Tier 3

- Offspring
- Sexual reproduction
- Vary
- Characteristics
- Suited
- Adapted