

Using Nature to Meet Educational Standards

SCIENCE

Fourth Grade

Activity #1: Materials: Data Sheet (one per student)

What is an adaptation? Do both plants and animals have adaptation? Why are adaptations important?

An adaptation is either a physical characteristic that an animal or plant has (long legs, webbed feet, waxy leaves, thick fur, long leaves, long ears, etc) or a behavior that an animal or plant does (eating, migrating, closing its flower, dropping leaves, running from predators, etc) to help it survive. All plants and animals have adaptations.

Head outside into the outdoor classroom or school grounds. List 10 different plants or animals. For each species, list two adaptations for the species. Differentiate whether the adaptation is a physical (something you can touch) adaptation or a behavioral (something it does) adaptation.

Name: _____

Adaptations Data Sheet

Plant or Animal	Adaptation	Physical or Behavioral?
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		