

Adaptations Essential Questions:

1. What is an adaptation?
2. What determines if an adaptation is beneficial?
3. How is an adaptation acquired?
4. What are the three different types of adaptations?

We throw around the word “adapt” all of the time in our everyday language. However, in terms of evolution...an adaptation has a very specific meaning.

Common definition of Adaptation:

Scientific definition of Adaptation:

How do we get our adaptations?



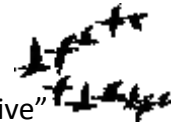
What is a beneficial adaptation?

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Three Types of Adaptations:

_____ **Adaptation.** “Things an organism does to stay alive”



_____ **Adaptation.** “The physical structures that help organisms survive”



_____ **Adaptation.** “The chemical reactions that help organisms survive”



Exploring Adaptations:

For each video—answer the questions that follow.

VIDEO #1: Birds

Description of Video:



★ What type of adaptation is this? _____
Why is this a beneficial adaptation?

VIDEO #2: Insects

Description of Video:

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____
Why is this a beneficial adaptation?



VIDEO #3: Cuttlefish

Description of Video:

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____ (change *shape* of body)

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____ (change *color* of body)

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____ (decide what color to change the body)

Why is this a beneficial adaptation?



VIDEO #4: Waterfall Toad

Description of Video:

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____

Why is this a beneficial adaptation?



VIDEO #5: Elephant Shrew

Description of Video:

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____ (position of legs)

Why is this a beneficial adaptation?

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____ (long nose)

Why is this a beneficial adaptation?

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____ (memory of trails)

Why is this a beneficial adaptation?

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____ (mammal)

Why is this a beneficial adaptation?

Do you know why the little shrew needs 10x more food than a reptile his size?

Do you know why the mammal can run longer than the reptile?

VIDEO #6: Angler Fish

Description of Video:



★ What type of adaptation is this? _____ (lure)

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____ (bioluminescence)

Why are these beneficial adaptations?

VIDEO #7: Black Devil

Description of Video:

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____ (scent organ)

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____ (enzyme)

Why are these beneficial adaptations?

VIDEO #8: Fly

Description of Video:

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____

Why are these beneficial adaptations?



VIDEO #9: Desert Fox

Description of Video:

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____

Why are these beneficial adaptations?

The Sahara Desert is a hot environment; can you think of a second benefit to those large ears?

VIDEO #10: Snow Monkey

Description of Video:

★ What type of adaptation is this? _____

Why are these beneficial adaptations?