

ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS

MAIN OBJECTIVES

- Gain an understanding of how animals survive in a changing environment.
- Use of critical thinking
- Collaboration and Communication

ACTIVITY

Students will investigate how animals change their behaviors to adjust to a shift in their surroundings. By researching abandoned or stray animals in an animal shelter, students will work together to discuss how the shelter animals may have changed from sheltered in a home, lost to the owner, or simply born without a home. They will answer questions in their own words and as a group: 1) What changes in behaviour do the animals make? 2) How are the shelter and stray animals lives different from animals that live in a home? That live in the wild? 3) What can be done to reduce the number of domesticated stray animals?

Each group will develop a community plan to improve the local shelters and rescues reduce the number of lost and stray pets.

MATERIALS

Projector or TV for document presentation

Student devices Chromebook, computer, iPad

Paper, pencils, crayons, markers, poster board

CURRICULUM COMPONENTS

- 4.L.1 Understand the effects of environmental changes, adaptations and behaviors that enable animals (including humans) to survive in changing habitats.
- 4.L.1.3 Explain how humans can adapt their behavior to live in changing habitats (e.g., recycling wastes, establishing rain gardens, planting trees and shrubs to prevent flooding and erosion).
- 4.L.1 Understand the effects of environmental changes, adaptations and behaviors that enable animals (including humans) to survive in changing habitats.
- 4.L.1.4 Explain how differences among animals of the same population sometimes give individuals an advantage in surviving and reproducing in changing habitats.

Vocabulary:

Harmful, Community, Survival, Waste, Adaptation, Beneficial, Habitat, Instinct, Population, Environment, Learned Behavior, Inherited Behavior, Recycling, Flooding, Reproduce, Advantage, Animal, Plant, Disease, Behavior, Ecological Systems, Preserve, Conserve, Variation, Survival Advantage