



Mrs. Blisard
3rd Grade
Due Date: Oct. 16th

Animal Adaptations

a mini project

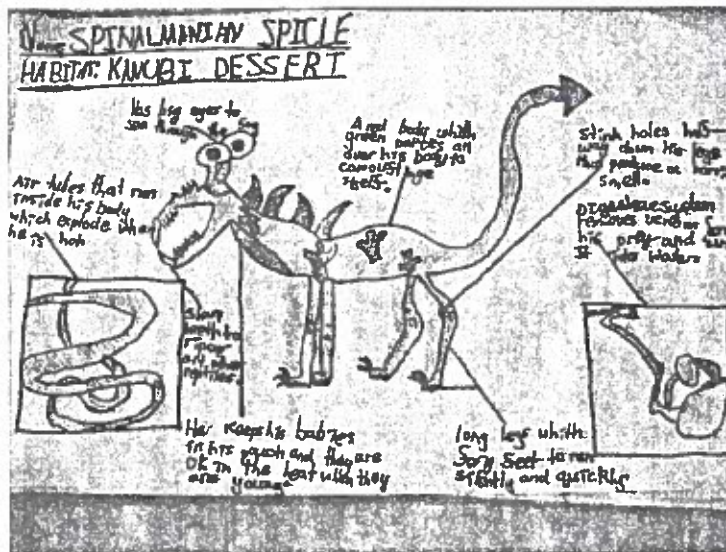
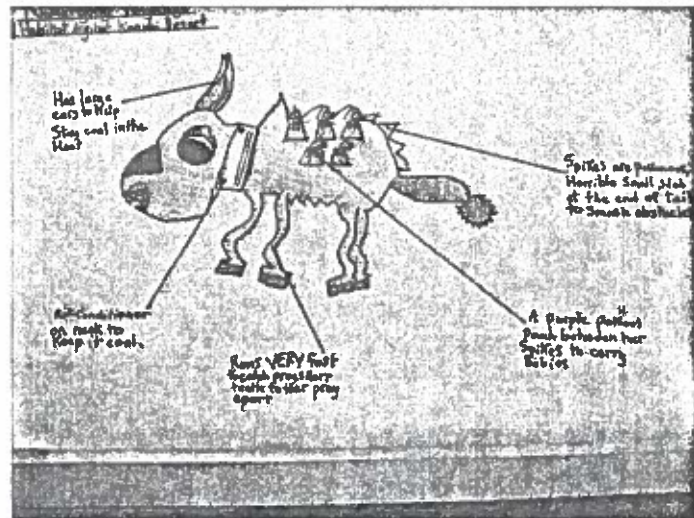
- design an imaginary animal to survive in a specific imaginary habitat -



Examples:

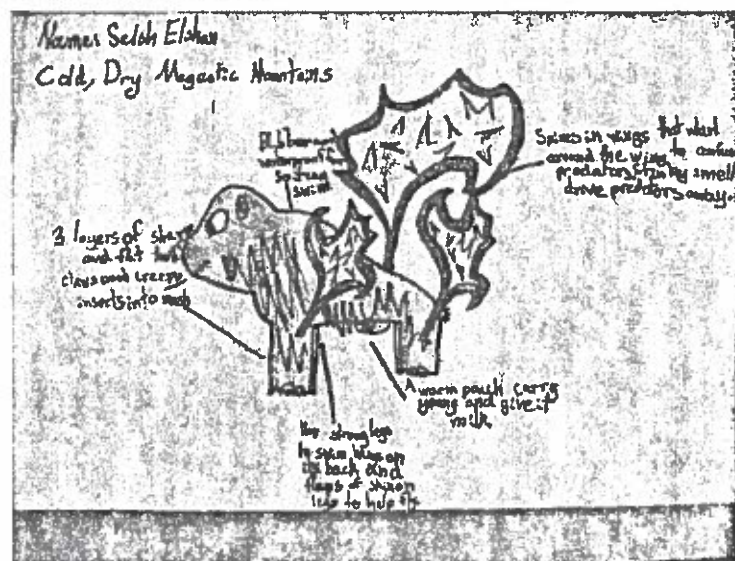
Some of our creations:

This desert species has an air conditioner collar!



I love the magnification boxes on this one! This animal has a special digestive and breathing system ☺

This mountain animal has wings to fly up the steep slopes.



Environment: Kanubi Desert

Name: Example

	Information about the environment – use only what is written on the sheets.	Adaptation that will help animal survive – what special features does your animal have.
Climate	hot and dry	How will your animal stay warm or cool? large ears to radiate heat special fan-shaped body parts that wave over body to keep it cool
Available food	reptiles and cactus	What will your animal eat? What does it need to be able to eat this food safely? eats cactus plants. Has large flat teeth to chew leaves and special tweezer-like appendages on upper lip to remove cactus needles
Prey	reptiles	What special feature does your animal have to help it catch its prey? red skin the color of the sand to camouflage itself.
Predators	giant sandworms	How does your animal defend itself? it is covered in sharp spines and has twenty legs which help it to run fast
Landforms (e.g. mountains, rivers, desert)	mountains, desert	How does your animal move on land or in water (e.g. fins, wings) twenty legs help it move quickly over the hot sands
Other features (e.g. dark half the year, light half the year)	thick fog rolls in every morning	Does your animal have any special features to help it survive these unusual conditions? body covered in tiny hairs that absorb water from the fog. Water is stored in special bulb on tail
Caring for Young — how does your animal keep its young safe?		it lays eggs in specially hollowed out stone nests in the caves of the mountains so that the sandworms can't get them

Vocabulary/Definition List

adaptation – a change or modification that occurs over time within an animal that helps that animal to survive

blubber – a layer of fat that keeps animals warm

camouflage – the way in which an animal hides or disguises itself so that it blends in with its surroundings

defense – the way in which an animal protects itself

environment – an animal's surroundings; the climate, soil and living things that affect an animal's survival.

habitat – the place where an animal lives

prey - an animal taken by a predator as food

predator – an animal that eats other animals

quills – hollow sharp spines used for defense

Environment: _____

Name: _____

	Information about the environment – use only what is written on the sheets.	Adaptation that will help animal survive – what special features does your animal have.
Climate		How will your animal stay warm or cool?
Available food		What will your animal eat? What does it need to be able to eat this food safely?
Prey		What special feature does your animal have to help it catch its prey?
Predators		How does your animal defend itself?
Landforms (e.g. mountains, rivers, desert)		How does your animal move on land or in water (e.g. fins, wings)
Other features (e.g. dark half the year, light half the year)		Does your animal have any special features to help it survive these unusual conditions?
Caring for Young — how does your animal keep its young safe?		

Animal Adaptations Help Sheet

1) Examples of adaptations that help an animal get and eat food

Sharp teeth and/or claws help some animals catch and eat their prey. (e.g. leopards, sharks)
Large flat teeth help an animal to chew and live on plants.
The shape of a bird's beak can help it to eat specific food (e.g. a long, sharp beak can spear fish; a short stubby beak is good for eating insects)

2) Examples of adaptations that help an animal defend itself

Spines, quills, tusks, horns all protect an animal from a predator.
Camouflage can hide an animal (e.g. a chameleon)
Noise – some animals make noises to scare away predators (e.g. hissing cockroach)
Horrible smells can drive away predators (e.g. skunk)

3) Examples of adaptations that help animals care for their young

Pouches to carry young and keep them safe (e.g. marsupials)
Carrying young in other ways – some animals carry their babies around to protect them and ensure that they survive (e.g. a scorpion carries its babies on its back; a mouth feeder fish carries its babies in its mouth)
Building nests in safe places or hiding nests helps keep young safe (e.g. many birds)

4) Examples of adaptations that help animals adjust to climate

Blubber and thick fur help some animals to survive in cold climates (e.g. walrus, otter).
Large ears help some animals in hot countries to stay cool (e.g. elephant).

5) Examples of adaptations that help animals move in a way that helps their survival

Light bones and bodies help birds to fly.
Fins and tails help fish to swim.
Being able to move silently can help predators sneak up on prey.
Fast movement can help some animals to escape from predators.

Environment 1 – Jungle Island

Hot, wet and steamy Jungle Island lies exactly on the equator in the middle of the Eastern Ocean.

There is torrential rain every afternoon that keeps the many rivers, streams, lakes and swamps well filled.

Jungle Island is low-lying with a few small hills in the center. The entire island is covered with a thick, tall rainforest. The trees grow very closely together and the forest floor is covered with a deep layer of green, spongy moss, tall, prickly ferns and rotting wood.

Jungle Island is known for the many carnivorous plants that creep and twine around the vast tree trunks.

Around the edge of the island, a stony beach divides the jungle from the sea. Reefs surround the entire island creating a deep, warm, crystal clear lagoon where millions of brightly colored fish swim.

Environment 2 – The Plains of Moldovia

The freezing cold and dry Plains of Moldovia are located in the far north, where for half the year it is completely dark and for half the year it is completely light.

No plants grow on this deserted plain except for some glass-like silver grass, which produces a tiny, crystalline pink flower once a year in May. Huge gray boulders cover most of the plain but are mostly invisible in their heavy coating of snow.

Temperatures in the Plains of Moldovia are usually 50 degrees below zero in the summer and even colder in the winter.

A constant howling wind blows across the Plains, bringing snow, ice and hail every month except May when the dreaded snow wolves appear looking for food!

Environment 3 – The Kanubi Desert

In the Kanubi Desert the average temperature is 140 degrees during the day and 100 degrees at night.

Rain has never fallen on this dry, hot, mountainous land and there are no rivers or streams, but every morning a thick gray fog rolls in from the Western Sea, soaking the land for a brief time.

In the shadows of the black mountains, tall, green, prickly, bulbous plants grow in the boiling red sand.

Many small reptiles live here – small, scaly lizards and venomous multi-colored snakes – making their homes in the small caves in the mountains.

Giant, carnivorous but slow-moving sandworms live under the desert sands hunting at night and when the fog rolls in.

Environment 4 – The Majestic Mountains

The Majestic Mountains are the highest mountains in the world - gray, jagged peaks that rise steeply into the clouds.

Crystal clear waterfalls cascade down the sides of these enormous mountains, pouring into an immense, turbulent river that surrounds the peaks.

There are no trees at all but many different types of brilliantly colored flowers grow on the rough rocks.

Insects love these mountains and gather in their millions, humming and buzzing in the cold, crisp air.

The many caves and crevices in the mountains provide shelter for the ice bear, a fierce carnivore most active in the winter months.

The Majestic Mountains enjoy dry, cold summers and winters, with temperatures staying just above freezing all year round.

It never snows in these mountains but once a month there is an early morning rainfall.

Environment 5- The Sea of Latveria

The below freezing temperatures of the Sea of Latveria make it difficult to navigate through the large chunks of ice and snow. Parts of the sea are covered with ice so thick that barely any light gets through. The natives in the area drill holes into the ice hoping to catch some of the mysterious fish that hover just below.

The only plants that have been discovered are the five foot wide Whisper Lilies. It is still unknown how these beautiful flowers are able to survive in almost complete darkness. They even bear a strange fruit called whispermelons that look similar to watermelons but have a blue sour juice inside.

Deep canyons and low-lying hills outline the sea's sand and pebble covered bottom. The sand is orange with small crystals in various colors and the pebbles look like marbles. Large, rugged tunnels can be found along the walls of the canyons that can be as deep as half a mile into the red stone and seem to form intersecting roads throughout the interior of the massive landforms.

At night, a loud screeching can be heard from the colossal banshee fish hunting for food. Their screams are said to paralyze their prey long enough for their razor sharp tentacles to get a strangle hold on them. None of the wildlife is safe from these ferocious predators, especially in November when they hunt during both day and night!

