For Creative Minds

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Adaptation Matching Activity

Match the correct animal to its adaptation to survive in its habitat.



a. Black Bear

My long, curved claws and long tongue help me grab insects.



b. Snake

I have lots of bones so I can easily bend and slither around.



c. Zebra

My black and white stripes help to hide me in the tall grass.



d. Turtle

I have a thick shell to protect me from predators.



e. Giraffe

I have a long neck to eat leaves high in the trees.



3.

f. Monkey

I have a tail that I use like a hand to grab and to hold onto things.



g. Elephant

I use my trunk to drink water and to feel things around me.



h. Alligator

My eyes are high on my head so I can see when I'm in the water.



i. Gorilla

My thumbs help me to grab food and to hold onto things.



j. Toucan

I have a strong beak to break open nuts and fruit to eat.



Answers: 1g; 2h; 3f; 4i; 5a; 6j; 7b; 8e; 9d; 10c



8.

9

Animal Fun Facts

animal	class	babies called	weight at birth	family group	eat
Black Bears	Mammals	Cubs	< 1 lb.	Solitary	Omnivore
Elephants	Mammals	Calves	250 lb.	Herd	Herbivore
Flamingos	Birds	Chicks	3 oz.	Colony	Omnivore
Giraffes	Mammals	Calves	150 lb.	Herd	Herbivore
Gorillas	Mammals	Babies	3 - 4 lb.	Band	Herbivore
Lions	Mammals	Cubs	1 ¹ / ₂ lb.	Pride	Carnivore
Llamas	Mammals	Crias	20 - 30 lb.	Family	Herbivore
Meerkats	Mammals	Pups	2 oz.	Mob or Gang	Omnivore
Rhinos	Mammals	Calves	88 - 144 lb.	Crash	Herbivore
Zebras	Mammals	Foals	55 lb.	Herd	Herbivore

Zoo keepers

People have all kinds of different jobs such as policemen, firemen, doctors, nurses, or veterinarians. Some are teachers and some work at home caring for young children. Zoo keepers, like the man and the woman in the book, care for animals at zoos and aquariums. Unlike veterinarians who usually work with individual animals once or twice a year or when they are sick, zoo keepers can work with animals all the time. Zoo keepers are scientists who:

- · Feed the animals and make sure they get their vitamins.
- · Clean the area where the animals live.
- · Know the animals very well, just like you know a pet dog or cat. They can tell if an animal is getting sick or doesn't feel well.
- Give animals basic checkups. Sometimes they have to train the animals to stand still while being examined. Other animals may have to go to sleep to be examined.
- Make sure that the animals keep busy and get enough exercise.
- Help with conservation of endangered or threatened animals.

Creative Sparks: Imagine that you are a zoo keeper!

What would be your favorite part of taking care of the animals?

Which would be your favorite zoo animal and why?

What would you do if an animal gets sick?

What would you do if a dangerous animal escaped?

What could you do to help the animals stay healthy and active?