

# Animal Adaptations

**Adaptations** are traits that help an organism to survive. Some adaptations are **physical** like a deer's antlers. Others are **behavioral** like a bird migrating. Write the letter of each animal next to its adaptation.

**A. Black-tailed Deer**



**B. Western Fence Lizard**



**C. Turkey Vulture**

1. \_\_\_\_ This animal builds complex nests that it passes on to the next generation.

**D. Acorn Woodpecker**



2. \_\_\_\_ This animal has feathers covering its nostrils so wood dust can't get in.

3. \_\_\_\_ This animal has a long tail that helps it balance as it climbs trees.

4. \_\_\_\_ This animal excretes slime that can make the tongue of predators go numb.



**E. Banana Slug**

5. \_\_\_\_ This animal poops on its own feet and legs to keep cool.

6. \_\_\_\_ This animal has a venomous bite to protect itself from predators and subdue prey.

7. \_\_\_\_ This animal can hold up to three gallons of water in its pouch.

8. \_\_\_\_ This animal will "play dead", fall over, curl up in a ball, drool, and excrete a stinky substance, to deter predators.



**G. Virginia Opossum**

9. \_\_\_\_ This animal camouflages with its white spots as a baby, hiding curled up and perfectly still for hours at a time till their mother comes back.

10. \_\_\_\_ This animal can change their skin color in response to temperature, from darker to lighter as they warm up.

**F. Western Grey Squirrel**



**I. Brown Pelican**



**H. Dusky-footed Woodrat**



**J. Diamondback Rattlesnake**

# Animal Adaptations ANSWER KEY

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**A. Black-tailed Deer**



**B. Western Fence Lizard**



**C. Turkey Vulture**



1. H This animal builds complex nests that it passes on to the next generation.

**D. Acorn Woodpecker**



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3. F This animal has a long tail that helps it balance as it climbs trees.

4. E This animal excretes slime that can make the tongue of predators go numb.



**E. Banana Slug**

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