

Wild Kids

Adaptations Worksheet

STAGE 3 - YEAR 5 & 6

CURRICULUM LINKS: ACSSU043, ACSSU094, ACSHE083

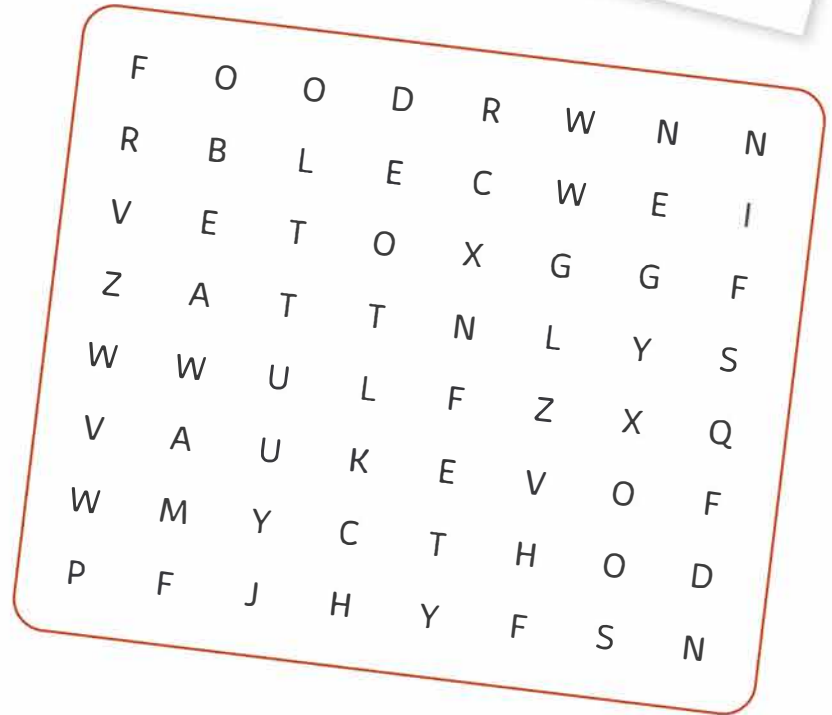
This worksheet is tailored to Stage 3 students (years 5 and 6) and is designed to teach them about different animal adaptations



SECTION 1

Animal survival

Animals have 4 basic needs to survive. Complete the find a word to discover what they are!



SECTION 2

Survival of the fittest

Use the words from the word bank to complete the following passage about Tasmanian devils.

Words: mate, 50, pouch, fight, attention, teats, four, birth, joes, tiny, attach, Breeding

Tasmanian devils' season lasts from March to May. Female devils will with dominant males, who to gain their . Three weeks after conception, the females give to up to babies, called . These 50 extremely joeys scramble to attach themselves to one of the available in the mother's . The competition is fierce and part of the natural world.



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SECTION 3

Australian bushlands are extreme environments!

Water is vital for both human and animal survival. 70% of Australia is considered to have a semi-arid climate, which means less than 500mm of rain fall per year. So how have animals that live in this environment adapted to having very little water?

Koalas are an example of an animal that has adapted to get its water source elsewhere. Koalas do not drink water from a pond or river- instead they get their water intake from eating eucalyptus leaves!

In the space below draw and label a picture of a koala eating eucalyptus leaves. Include the eucalyptus tree in your picture.

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SECTION 4

Wombat adaptations

Read the following text and then fill in the blank next to the wombat below:

Wombats are marsupials and are native to Australia. A marsupial carries their young in a pouch and in the wombat the pouch faces backwards so that when they dig their burrows with their powerful claws they don't cover their babies with soil. Wombats are herbivores and mostly eat grass, bark and roots. Their teeth are a bit like those of rats and mice and are built for chewing through tough vegetation.

They defend themselves in a unique way. When a predator is threatening them they dive into a nearly hole or tunnel and block it with their rear facing out. This rear has a toughened hide and an internal plate to withstand an attack. They have an excellent sense of hearing to know when a predator is coming.



I have rodent-like teeth to...

I have claws to...

I have a pouch to...

In my rear behind I have a plate to...

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SECTION 5

I have wings!

Did you know that some species of birds have wings but cannot fly! Australia is home to two species of birds that are land birds that are unable to fly. Both the cassowary and the emu both have similar characteristics.

In the space provided below can you list the similarities and the differences between these two birds.



Similar Adaptations

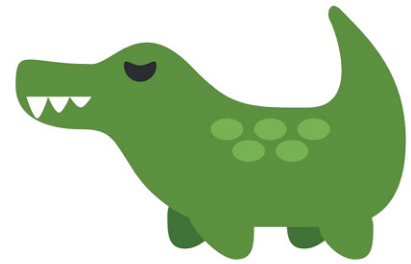
Different Adaptations

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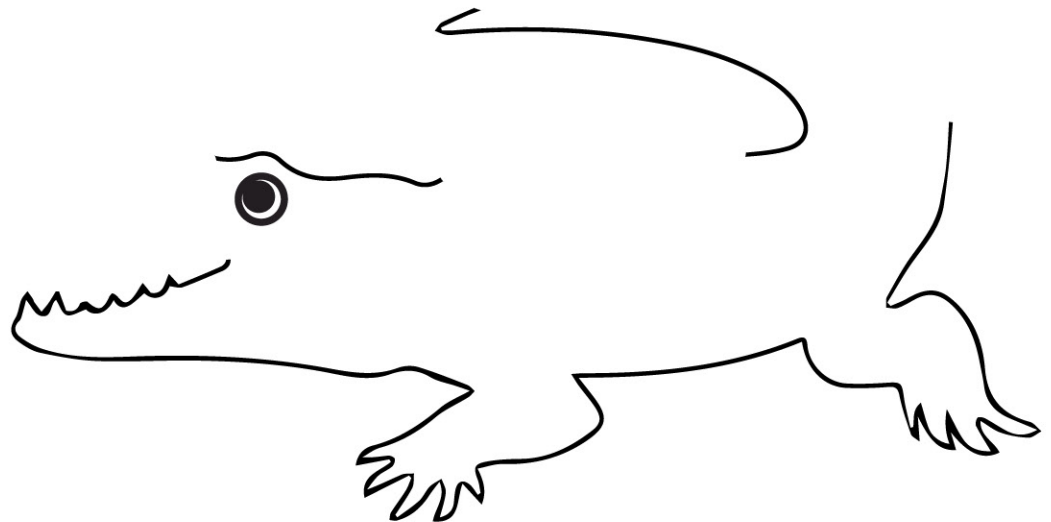


SECTION 6

Ancient creatures

Crocodiles have been around for millions of years! They have been able to evolve and adapt to the ever changing world that we live in. They have both physical and behavioural characteristics that are vital for its survival.

Draw in the missing physical adaptations from the picture below.



Use your current knowledge, or research online, to answer the following questions:

1. A crocodile's eyes, nostrils and ears are all located along the top of its head. Why is this beneficial to the crocodile?

2. Name 2 things the crocodile uses its powerful tail for

3. Check the correct answer:

- ☐ Crocodiles are warm-blooded mammals
- ☐ Crocodiles are cold-blooded reptiles

4. What does a crocodile eat?

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SECTION 7

Vocabulary list

Look up the meanings of the following words that relate to animal adaptation and write them below.

Survival

Adaptations

Physical

Behavioural

Reproduce

Extreme

Fittest

Evolve

Environment

