

Kid Stuff

Nurturing Nature



Have you ever wished you had a superpower?

Maybe you would like to see in the dark, run super-fast, or stay cool on a hot day.

Guess what? Wildlife has superpowers!

Scientists call these special survival tools **adaptations**. An adaptation is something that helps a living thing survive where it lives.

Let's meet some amazing animals and discover their natural superpowers!

Amazing Animal Adaptations!

How Wildlife Survives with Natural Superpowers

AMAZING ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS!

Animals have special features that help them survive in their homes. These are called **ADAPTATIONS**. Let's look at some wildlife superpowers!

<div style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> GREAT HORNED OWL The Silent Hunter </div> <div style="background-color: #e8f5e9; padding: 5px;"> <p>ADAPTATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Huge eyes let it see well in the dark. Soft, special feathers help it fly silently. Sharp talons grab and hold prey. <p>SUPERPOWER: Sees, hears and hunts in the dark!</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: #009688; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> DUCK Built for Water </div> <div style="background-color: #e8f5e9; padding: 5px;"> <p>ADAPTATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Webbed feet act like paddles for swimming. Oily, waterproof feathers keep it dry. Flat bill helps strain food from water. <p>SUPERPOWER: Swims, dives and stays dry!</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: #9c27b0; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> ARCTIC FOX Master of the Cold </div> <div style="background-color: #e8f5e9; padding: 5px;"> <p>ADAPTATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thick fur keeps it warm in freezing weather. Fur-covered feet act like snow boots. White fur in winter helps it blend in and stay hidden. <p>SUPERPOWER: Stays warm and hides in plain sight!</p> </div>	<div style="background-color: #ff9800; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> JACKRABBIT Desert Survivor </div> <div style="background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 5px;"> <p>ADAPTATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very large ears release heat and keep it cool. Powerful back legs help it run fast and jump far. Sandy-colored fur helps it blend in with its home. <p>SUPERPOWER: Stays cool, runs fast and avoids danger!</p> </div>
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WHAT IS ADAPTATION?
An adaptation is a special body part or behavior that helps an animal survive in its environment.

BE AN ADAPTATION DETECTIVE!

- 1 Look for an animal.
- 2 What helps it survive where it lives?
- 3 Draw it and write its adaptations!

Every animal has a special superpower! Let's protect their homes so they can thrive in the wild!

Animals have special features called adaptations that help them survive.



A great horned owl uses huge eyes and silent feathers to hunt at night.

Imagine hearing a mouse moving under leaves from across a playground! That's one of an owl's amazing superpowers.

Try It! Have a friend crumple paper while you close your eyes. Can you point to where the sound came from? Owls use their hearing even better than you can!



A duck has webbed feet and waterproof feathers for life in the water.



An Arctic fox stays warm with thick fur and changes color to blend into its habitat.



A jackrabbit uses its giant ears to release heat and stay cool in the desert.

Try being an Adaptation Detective! Look for an animal and ask yourself:

What helps it find food?

What helps it stay safe?

What helps it survive where it lives?

Here's more on animal adaptations: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6pwCkEZE7rA>

Celebrate the 4th of July with your wildlife friends!

Here are some patriotic-colored natural and blended wildlife foods:

- **Red:**
 - **Berries:** Raspberries, strawberries, and dried cranberries are excellent for songbirds and small mammals.
 - **Seeds:** Safflower seeds and red milo
- **White:**
 - **Seeds:** White proso millet, hulled sunflower seeds, and peanuts.
 - **Nuts:** Raw, unsalted almonds and walnuts (great for squirrels).
- **Blue:**
 - **Fruit:** Blueberries are a natural, high-energy favorite for backyard birds like bluebirds, robins, and thrashers.
 - **Grains:** Blue corn and purple/blue kernel corn.

Puzzles!

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/?rc=play&pid=060d1b0ab9ac>

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