

Living Systems (SOL 4.5)

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In order for animals to survive they must adapt to their individual and environmental needs. Animals can have structural adaptations and behavioral adaptations

Animal Adaptations



Structural Adaptations – Physical attributes that help animals meet a life need.
Examples: Camouflage & Turtle Shell



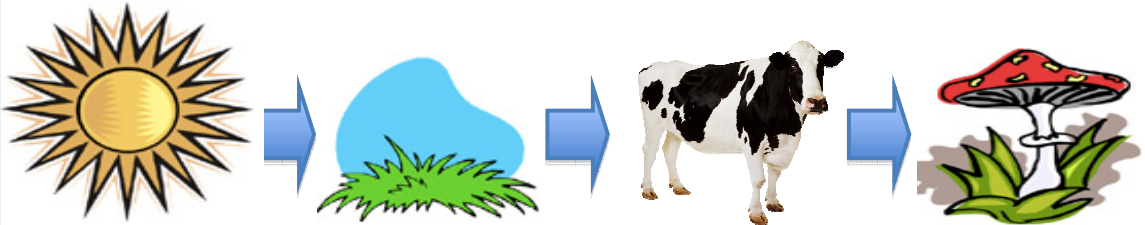
Behavioral Adaptations – Certain types of activities animals perform, which help them meet a life need. Examples: Migration & Hibernation



The organization of a community is based on the utilization of the energy from the sun within a given ecosystem. The greatest amount of energy in a community is in the producers. The community is also defined by the interrelated niches within it.

Food Chain

Energy is passed from the sun to a producer to consumer to decomposer.



Other Living Systems Vocabulary:

Habitat – the place in which an animal or plant naturally lives, which provides food, water, shelter, and space. The size of the habitat depends on the organism’s need.

Organism – any living thing

Ecosystem – the ways living things interact with other living things and non-living things.

Community – a group of organisms that share an environment

Life Cycle – The various stages of life (egg, tadpole, frog)

Niches? What is a Niche?

(Pronounced like leash or ditch) the function that an organism performs in the food web of that community. It also includes everything the organism does and needs in its environment. No two types of organisms can occupy exactly the same niche in a community. During an animal’s life cycle, its niche can change.

Humans have a major impact on ecosystems



Positive Effects



Negative Effects