

# Behavioral or Structural Adaptation Task Card Sort

1

Canadian Geese migrate in winter to get food all year.



2

The Arctic Fox has thick fur to keep it warm.



3

Chipmunks collect and store food so they can find it in winter.



4

Ducks have webbed feet to help swim.



marks on trees.



their first 6 months.



51

Zebra have stripes to camouflage in a herd.



52

Zebra live in a herd for protection so there are more eyes to spot predators.



The things organisms **DO** to survive.

The **physical features** of an organism that help it survive.

52 Adaptations Cards

Differentiated  
Recording Sheets

Lots of lesson options!

## **Behavioral or Structural Adaptations Sort Teacher Directions:**

There are many ways you could use this product! I have included 52 cards showing examples of adaptations so you can use it the best way for your classroom. The adaptations go from basic to fairly complex so it can be differentiated for the different levels of learners in your classroom.

1. Put out some cards (like 15 at a station) and have students read the cards and identify the type of adaptation and record on the sheet (with the  $\frac{1}{2}$  sheet or the whole sheet). When you use it at stations, it is a perfect time to differentiate so that more advanced students are getting the more difficult adaptations (either because they are harder to figure out, or because there is more reading involved.)
2. Use this as PASS GAME- have students remain in their seats and pass the cards around the classroom. For this you can choose how many would work best- If you have 25 students using 30 cards at a time works best.
3. Or you could give out the sheet where the adaptations are all listed and have students check the correct box after reading the card.

There are so many cards included that you could do this several times, increasing the difficulty each time!

I have made the worksheets editable so you can tailor them to your own best use!

Enjoy!

# BEHAVIORAL ADAPTATION

The things  
organisms **DO** to  
survive.

# STRUCTURAL ADAPTATION

The **physical  
features** of an  
organism that  
help it survive.

1

Canadian Geese migrate in winter to get food all year.



2

The Arctic Fox has thick fur to keep it warm.



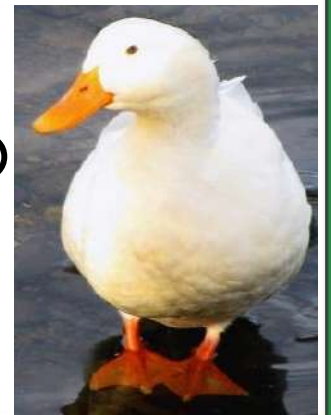
3

Chipmunks collect and store food so they can find it in winter.



4

Ducks have webbed feet to help swim.



5 Opossums “play dead” to confuse predators.



7 Hawks have sharp claws to catch and kill their prey.



6 Woodchucks hibernate through a long winter.



8 Rabbits have large ears so they can hear and avoid danger.





9 A rosebush has thorns to discourage animals from eating them.



10 Leaf Insects are shaped like a leaf so predators think they are real leaves.



12 Leaf insects sway as they walk so that they look like leaves blowing in the wind.



13 Frogs have long strong legs to hop quickly and far.



11

A beavers' front teeth grow continuously to be able to chew wood.



14

Beavers claim their territory by building piles of mud and marking it with scent.



15 A moose has long legs to walk through deep snow, over bushes and logs, and wade through marshes.



16

Male moose, called bulls, roar loudly to attract mates.



17 A Polar Bear has very small ears to keep it from losing heat.



18 A Polar Bear has thick rough pads on their feet to better walk on ice.



19 Armadillos can roll up into a ball to protect their undersides.



21 An Oak Tree drops its leaves in the winter to avoid snow damage.





20 A penguin is white on the front and black on its back to camouflage in the water.



22 Penguins make nests side by side and huddle to keep the chicks warm.



24 A sea turtle has 4 limbs that can be rotated so they can swim and move on land to lay eggs.



23 Sea turtles return to the same beaches to lay their eggs every year.



25

A Birch tree has wide large leaves on high up branches to catch sunlight for photosynthesis.



26

The leaves of a Pitcher plant form pitchers (water holding jugs) to drown and digest insects for nutrients.



27

The Arctic Willow has shallow roots because the ground is permanently frozen under shallow layer of thawed soil.



28

The Mesquite tree has long root systems to draw water from deep underground.



29

A Bald Eagle will often get their meals by stealing the kills of other animals.



32

Bald Eagles have a long, wide tail to help soar high in the sky.



31

The Pelican first uses its elastic pouch to catch fish they then drain out the water and swallow the fish.



30

Pelicans help each other by swimming together and beating their wings on the surface to move fish into shallow water.



33

A Pufferfish has an elastic stomach to take in huge amounts of water so they become a large ball several times their normal size.



34

Pufferfish swim slow and clumsy which makes it easy to be attacked by a predator.



37

Sharks do not have any bones in their body- they have a skeleton of cartilage.



35

The Great White Shark attacks and surprises their prey (seals and sea lions) from below.





**36** A Green Basilisk lizard has long toes on their rear feet with fringe-like scales that allow them to walk on water!



**38** Green Basilisk Lizards are very territorial and spend most of the time in trees near water to protect their space.



**39** The stripes on a Kingsnake look like those on a poisonous coral snake.



**42** Spiders spin sticky webs to trap insects to eat.





40 When threatened, a skunk will raise its tail and spray a toxin at the predator.



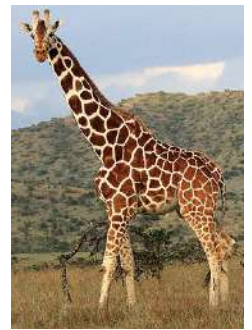
41 Bumblebees have a long tongue to get nectar from flowers.



43 Camels store fat (not water) in their hump that can be used for energy later.



44 Giraffes have an extra-large heart to pump blood up their long necks to the brain.



45 Cheetah will stalk their prey before pouncing on them to get as close as possible.



46 Female Birds of Paradise will watch the males dance to decide who to mate with.



47 Male peacocks have beautiful feathers to attract a mate with.



48 Polar Bear dig dens to stay warm in the cold.



49 Koalas define their territories by making scratch marks on trees.



50 Mama koalas have a pouch where newborn koalas spend their first 6 months.



51 Zebras have stripes to camouflage in a herd.



52 Zebras live in a herd for protection so there are more eyes to spot predators.



