Survival Spotters

How animals survive in different places

L.2.4.1 "Evaluate and communicate findings from informational text or other media to describe how plants and animals use adaptations to survive (e.g., ducks use webbed feet to swim in lakes and ponds…"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline a helpful body part or action in each paragraph, then circle the words that tell how it helps the animal survive there.

Animals in Their Homes

1. The desert is hot and dry. A kangaroo rat stays in a cool burrow during the day. It comes out at night, when the air is cooler, to find seeds. This habit helps it avoid the hottest hours.

2. In a rainforest, tall trees hold food high above the ground. A sloth has long, curved claws that hook around branches. The claws help it hang on as it moves through the trees to reach leaves.

3. In the far north, snow covers the land for much of the year. A polar bear has thick fur that helps hold heat near its body. This fur helps the bear stay warm as it walks across cold ice.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How does coming out at night help a kangaroo rat survive in the desert?

2. How do a sloth's claws help it reach food in the rainforest?

3. How does thick fur help a polar bear survive in the far north?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Think of a woodland animal not named in the passage. Write two sentences that name a body part it uses to survive and explain how that part helps it in the woods.

ANSWER KEY

Survival Spotters

GRADE 2 · L.2.4.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline a helpful body part or action in each paragraph, then circle the words that tell how it helps the animal survive there. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How does coming out at night help a kangaroo rat survive in the desert?	**It can find seeds when the air is cooler and avoid the hottest hours.**
2	How do a sloth's claws help it reach food in the rainforest?	**Its claws hook around branches so it can move through the trees to reach leaves.**
3	How does thick fur help a polar bear survive in the far north?	**Thick fur holds heat near its body and helps it stay warm.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A woodpecker has a strong beak. It pecks into tree bark to find insects to eat.

Accept answers that correctly connect a body part or action to how it helps the animal survive in its environment. For Part 3, accept any accurate woodland example that names a body part and explains its use.