Built to Survive

Read how body parts help animals in different homes.

L.2.4 "Students will demonstrate an understanding of the ways animals adapt to their environment in order to survive. Evaluate and communicate findings from informational text or other media to describe how plants and animals use adaptations to..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each body part that helps an animal survive. Circle the words that tell how that part helps in its home.

Helpful Body Parts

1. Fennec foxes live in hot deserts. Their large ears let heat leave their bodies, which helps them stay cool. Thick fur covers the bottoms of their feet. It helps them walk on hot sand.

2. In polar lands, a polar bear walks across deep snow to find food. Its wide paws spread its weight so it does not sink as far. Thick fur helps keep the bear warm in the cold air.

3. In a rainy forest, a red-eyed tree frog climbs wet leaves. Its sticky toe pads help it hold on. This grip lets the frog search for insects in trees instead of slipping to the ground.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How do a fennec fox's ears and foot fur help it in the desert?

2. Why are wide paws helpful to a polar bear in deep snow?

3. How do sticky toe pads help a red-eyed tree frog find food in a rainy forest?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Choose an animal from the text and name a problem a person faces in its home. Design a tool based on one of its body parts, then tell how you would build a model, test it, and improve it.

ANSWER KEY

Built to Survive

GRADE 2 · L.2.4

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each body part that helps an animal survive. Circle the words that tell how that part helps in its home. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How do a fennec fox's ears and foot fur help it in the desert?	**Its large ears help it stay cool. The fur on its feet helps it walk on hot sand.**
2	Why are wide paws helpful to a polar bear in deep snow?	**Wide paws spread the bear's weight so it does not sink as far.**
3	How do sticky toe pads help a red-eyed tree frog find food in a rainy forest?	**They help the frog grip wet leaves so it can search for insects in trees without slipping.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In polar lands, a person may sink into deep snow. I would make wide shoes like a polar bear's paws to spread the person's weight. I would tie wide plastic lids under toy boots and test whether they sink in snow. If they sink, I would try wider lids.

Accept any tool linked to an animal body part in the passage if it addresses a problem in that animal's environment. The response should include a model, a way to test it, and a possible improvement.