

Body or Behavior?

Read closely to tell physical and behavioral adaptations apart.

3.4.b “adaptations may be behavioral or physical; and”

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each physical adaptation and circle each behavioral adaptation to show how animal bodies and actions help them survive.

Adaptations at Work

- ① Animals have traits and actions that help them live where they do. These helpful features are called adaptations. A physical adaptation is a body part or body covering. A behavioral adaptation is something an animal does. Both kinds can help an animal find food, stay safe, or handle weather successfully in its habitat every day.
- ② A sea otter has thick fur that traps air near its skin. The fur helps keep the otter warm in cold ocean water. This is a physical adaptation because it is part of the otter's body covering. Sea otters also wrap themselves in kelp while resting. This behavior can keep a floating otter from drifting away.
- ③ An Arctic fox grows a thick white coat in winter. Its coat helps it blend into snowy ground and hold in heat. The coat is a physical adaptation. When strong winds blow, the fox may curl into a ball and cover its nose with its tail. This behavior helps the fox keep warm and protect its nose.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What is the difference between a physical adaptation and a behavioral adaptation?

2 What physical adaptation does the sea otter have? What behavioral adaptation does it use while resting?

3 How does the sea otter's fur help it survive in its habitat?

4 Name the Arctic fox's physical adaptation and behavioral adaptation.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose an animal that is not named in the passage. Write four sentences describing one physical adaptation and one behavioral adaptation. Label each kind and explain how each adaptation helps the animal.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each physical adaptation and circle each behavioral adaptation to show how animal bodies and actions help them survive. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What is the difference between a physical adaptation and a behavioral adaptation?	A physical adaptation is a body part or body covering. A behavioral adaptation is something an animal does.
2	What physical adaptation does the sea otter have? What behavioral adaptation does it use while resting?	The sea otter has thick fur. While resting, it wraps itself in kelp.
3	How does the sea otter's fur help it survive in its habitat?	The fur traps air near its skin and helps keep the otter warm in cold ocean water.
4	Name the Arctic fox's physical adaptation and behavioral adaptation.	Its thick white winter coat is a physical adaptation. Curling into a ball and covering its nose with its tail is a behavioral adaptation.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A beaver has broad, flat teeth that can cut wood. This physical adaptation helps it build a lodge for shelter. A beaver slaps its tail on the water when danger is near. This behavioral adaptation warns other beavers to hide.

Accept accurate body features or body coverings as physical adaptations and accurate actions as behavioral adaptations. For Part 3, accept different animals and adaptations when both labels and helpful effects are correct.