

# Nova's Evolution Explorer: Adaptation and Change

*Learning objective: To identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.*

Choose a living thing you have studied or observed. Use this fact-file to explain how your chosen creature has evolved features that help it survive in its specific habitat. Use the word bank to help you write your descriptions.

*Word bank: adaptation · evolution · environment · survival · inherited · characteristics · offspring · natural selection*

**1. Name of the living thing and a description of its natural habitat (e.g., desert, rainforest, ocean): (2 marks)**

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**2. Describe one specific physical feature (e.g., fur, beak shape, leaf size) that helps this creature survive: (3 marks)**

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**3. How does this feature give the creature an advantage over others in the same environment? (3 marks)**

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**4. Explain how these helpful characteristics are passed down from parents to their offspring: (3 marks)**

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**5. If the environment changed suddenly (e.g., became much hotter), how might this creature struggle or change over many generations? (4 marks)**

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*Extension challenge: Research a 'fossil record' of an animal. Write a short paragraph explaining how scientists use fossils as evidence to show how species have changed over millions of years.*