

Nova's Habitat Explorer Flashcards

Learning objective: To identify and describe the characteristics of different habitats and explain how living things are adapted to their environments.

Read the front of each flashcard and try to answer the question or define the term before checking the answer on the back.

What is a habitat?

A habitat is the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism, providing the conditions it needs to survive.

Define 'adaptation'.

An adaptation is a specific feature or behaviour that helps an organism survive and thrive in its particular environment.

Give an example of a structural adaptation in a polar habitat.

Thick layers of blubber or fur to keep animals warm in freezing temperatures.

What is the primary role of a producer in an ecosystem?

To produce energy for the ecosystem by converting sunlight into food through photosynthesis.

Define 'classification'.

Classification is the scientific method of grouping living things based on their shared characteristics and common features.

Why might a cactus be well-adapted to a desert habitat?

It has succulent stems to store water and spines instead of leaves to reduce water loss through transpiration.

What does an organism need to survive in its habitat?

Food, water, shelter, oxygen, and the correct temperature range.

Describe a behavioural adaptation.

An action an organism takes, such as migration to warmer climates or hibernation during winter, to help it survive.

True or False: All organisms are adapted to live in only one specific habitat.

False. Some organisms are generalists and can survive in a variety of different habitats.

What is a predator-prey relationship?

An interaction where one organism (the predator) hunts and feeds on another organism (the prey).

How does camouflage help an animal in its habitat?

It allows the animal to blend into its surroundings, making it harder for predators to see them or for prey to spot them hunting.

If a habitat changes significantly (e.g., deforestation), what happens to the organisms living there?

They must adapt to the new conditions, move to a different habitat, or they may face the risk of becoming endangered or extinct.