Adaptation Exploration with Nova the Owl

Learning objective: To identify how animals are adapted to suit their environment in different ways.

Nova the Owl is studying how creatures thrive in their habitats. Use the word bank to label your drawing and answer the questions below to show your scientific understanding of adaptation.

Draw: Draw a detailed scene featuring an animal of your choice in its natural habitat. The style should be a scientific field sketch. Include at least three clear physical adaptations (e.g., webbed feet for swimming, sharp claws for hunting, or large ears for cooling). Use labels from the word bank to point to these specific features. Ensure the background reflects the environment the animal is adapted to, such as a snowy tundra, a lush rainforest, or a sandy desert.

Label words: Camouflage · Insulation · Streamlined · Habitat · Adaptation · Predator · Prey

Steps:

1. Explain why an Arctic animal might have a thick layer of blubber or fur. How does this help it survive?
2. Label your drawing to show one feature that helps your chosen animal hide from a predator or sneak up on prey.
3. If the environment changed suddenly (e.g., the temperature rose significantly), why might some animals struggle to survive?

4. Describe one way a desert animal is adapted to conserve water.
5. Why is it important for an animal's physical features to match its specific habitat?