



Marine Matters Curriculum 2
Lesson 2 • Shoreline Habitats • Grades 4 – 7

Worksheet 1 – Adaptations

Conclusion Activities

Review shoreline animals and their adaptations for all three habitats. Following are a list of adaptations of animals to different shoreline habitats. Beside each adaptation, name an animal that uses the adaptation to survive in its habitat.

Mud flat adaptations

1. Shells
2. Protective shields or leathery skin
3. Tubes or siphons open to the surface
4. Ability to build a protective shell house
5. Ability to live inside another animal
6. Anchoring device

Sandy beach adaptations

1. Ability to move swiftly
2. Shells
3. Streamlined and/or flattened body shape
4. Ability to burrow under sand
5. Tubes or siphons open to the surface
6. Ability to move with surf action
7. Lives beyond surf action
8. Weighted body
9. Anchoring device

Rocky shore adaptations

1. Thick, protective shells
2. Strong attachment devices
3. Streamlined and/or flattened body shape
4. Ability to regenerate body parts
5. Ability to seal moisture-filled shell
6. Clustering behaviour



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Worksheet 1 – Adaptations

Design an imaginary creature that has at least two of the adaptations listed to live in a mud flat, rocky shore or sandy beach. Try this in groups or individually. Name the creature and draw the creature in its habitat.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for drawing the imaginary creature and its habitat.