**Animal Adaptation**

Animals have certain adaptations that help them to survive.

We can separate adaptation into two categories: **Physical & Behavioral**

**Physical adaptation:** Body structures that allow an animal to find food, defend itself and reproduce its species.

Helps animals survive in its environment.

Examples:

**Camouflage:** Use of color in surroundings.

**Mimicry:** Looking or sounding like another living organism.

**Chemical Defenses:** Animals use venom, ink and sprays.

**Body Covering and parts:** Claws, beaks, armor plates, skulls and teeth. Think of an elephant with its truck, it uses it to eat drink and clean its body.

**Behavioral adaptations:** This allows animals to respond to life needs. We can divide behavioral adaptations in two groups: **Instinctive and learned.**

**Instinctive** means these behaviors happen naturally and don’t have to be learned. Example: Methods of gathering and sorting food, defending oneself, raising young, migrating, hibernating and finding shelter.

**Learned** means these behaviors must be taught. They are usually obtained by interacting with environment and cannot be passed on to the next generation except by teaching.