Notes - Biological Evolution, Adaptations and Natural Selection.pdf

## Biological Evolution, Adaptations and **Natural Selection**

biological evolution - change in inherited characteristics of a population from generation to successive generation

> touted as the driving force of adaptation to environmental change

Processes That Lead to Evolution Genetic Variation Changes in Environmental Conditions

genes - segments of DNA found in chromosomes - impart certain inheritable traits in organisms

gene pool - sum of all genes possessed by the individuals of a population

mutations - random and unpredictable changes in DNA molecules that can be transmitted to offspring

- can be caused by external environmental agents (X-rays, ultraviolet light) and toxic organic chemicals

genetic variability - result of millions of random changes in the DNA molecules of individuals in a population

adaptation - any genetically controlled characteristic (structural, physiological or behavioural) that enhances the chance for members of a population to survive and reproduce in their environment

structural adaptations - coloration, mimicry, protective cover, gripping mechanisms

physiological adaptations - ability to poison prey, give off chemicals to repel predators, hibernate during cold weather

**behavioural adaptations** - migration, resource partitioning, species interactions (ie/parasitism)

**<u>natural selection</u>** - process by which the best adapted organisms survive and reproduce in a given environment

speciation - the formation of two or more species from one as the result of divergent natural selection in response to changes in environmental conditions



extinction - process by which a species is eliminated from existence when it cannot adapt genetically and reproduce successfully under new environmental conditions

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## **EcoPoint Opportunity...**

[Print Word Document and/or Email]
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- 2 species per adaptation (structural/physiological/behavioral)
- state the adaptation & need pictures for each

5 ecopoints per adaptation

+ 5 BONUS for adding a video for each adaptation

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Structural Adaptations...

Moose have a nostril path that doesn't allow water through.



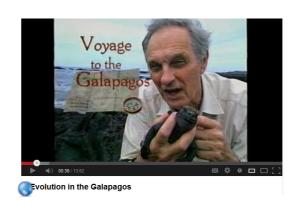
Moose antlers are used for competition with other male moose as well as for marking territory.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pN5PmOS34hI

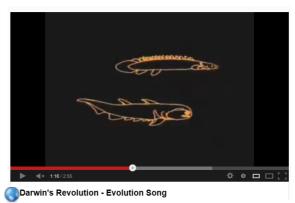
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## Processes that lead to Evolution...

Changes to the environment



Changes to the genetics



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