

# Desert Animal Adaptations Workbook

A printable AnimalSake activity pack

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Read



Match



Design



Quiz

# Built to Survive the Desert

Deserts are dry, hot by day, and often cool at night.

## Save water

Some animals get water from food and waste very little.



## Beat the heat

Big ears, pale colors, and shade help animals stay cooler.



## Hide and rest

Burrows protect animals from hot sun and cold nights.



## Move at night

Nocturnal animals are active when the desert is cooler.



## Desert Examples



Camel: stores fat in humps



Fennec fox: large ears release heat



Kangaroo rat: gets water from seeds



Lizard: basks, hides, and moves quickly



# Match the Desert Adaptation

Draw a line from each animal to its survival trick.

## Animal

1. Camel



2. Fennec fox



3. Kangaroo rat



4. Desert tortoise



5. Jackrabbit



## Survival Trick

A. Shelters in a burrow



B. Big ears help release heat



C. Gets water from seeds



D. Stores fat in humps



E. Strong shell helps protect it



## Think Like a Scientist

Which trick helps most during a hot afternoon?

My answer: \_\_\_\_\_

# Sort Desert Survival Tricks

Put each trick where it belongs.

Stay Cool

Save Water

Find Shelter



large ears



pale fur



active at night



gets water from food



stores fat



wastes little water



burrow



rock shade



cactus shelter

My desert animal design

Animal name: \_\_\_\_\_

Best survival trick: \_\_\_\_\_

Why it helps: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Design a Desert Survivor

Invent an animal that could live in a dry desert.

Draw your animal here



My animal name:

\_\_\_\_\_



It lives in:

\_\_\_\_\_



It eats:

\_\_\_\_\_



It is active during: day / night

## Adaptation checklist



big ears



pale color



water-saving body



digging claws



long legs



camouflage

## Explain two adaptations

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_



# Desert Adaptations Quick Quiz

Circle the best answer.

1 Why are many desert animals active at night?

- (A) it is cooler      (B) it is louder      (C) it is snowing



2 What does a burrow help with?

- (A) shelter      (B) flying      (C) swimming



3 Which animal has large ears that release heat?

- (A) fennec fox      (B) penguin      (C) starfish



4 Why is saving water important in a desert?

- (A) deserts are dry      (B) deserts are oceans      (C) deserts are frozen



5 What is camouflage?

- (A) blending in      (B) growing feathers      (C) making milk



## Bonus Draw

Draw one desert survival trick.

## Answer Check

- 1 A      2 A      3 A      4 A      5 A

