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Adaptation Scavenger Hunt – World Book Student

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1. What is adaptation?
2. How do adaptations develop and spread?
3. What is the difference between 'generalised' and 'specialised' adaptations?
4. What happens to living things that cannot adapt to a changing environment?
5. Acclimatisation is a form of adaptation. Give an example of this?

Did you know?

Did you know some fish are warm-blooded? A study conducted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on the opah fish has found a unique adaptation that allows the opah to keep its body consistently warm. Read about it in the *Behind the Headlines – No Cold Fish Here (May 19, 2015)*.

<http://www.worldbookonline.com/student/behindheadline?p=24254>

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Learn more about acclimatisation, here:

<http://www.worldbookonline.com/student/article?id=ar700079>

Adaptation Scavenger Hunt:

ANSWERS:

1. Adaptation is a characteristic of an organism that makes it better able to survive and reproduce in its environment.
2. Adaptations develop and spread through a process called 'natural selection'.
3. Generalised are organisms that are adapted to living in many different environments. Human beings are generalised—that is, the human body has adaptations that enable people to live in widely different environments. But other organisms are more specialised. Polar bears, for example, can live only in the cold climate around the Arctic Ocean.
4. Living things that cannot adapt to a changing environment become extinct or die out.
5. Examples of acclimatisation are dogs shedding in summer months, humans getting used to lower oxygen levels in altitude (mountainous areas).