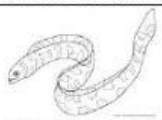
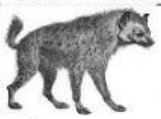
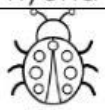
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Adaptations

For plants and animals, adaptation plays a big role in whether or not they survive. An **adaptation** is a characteristic or trait that helps an organism survive in its environment. For example, the spikes on a cactus are an adaptation of the cactus plant that reduces water loss and keeps the plant from being eaten by desert animals.

If the plant or animal is able to adapt, it is more likely to survive in its environment and pass on its traits to the next generation. The adaptations come in the form of behavior or a feature that help the animal to **defend itself**, **feed**, **move**, **sense their environment**, and **communicate**.

In the table below, there are several different adaptations. Your job is to decide whether the adaptation helps the animal to eat, communicate, move or defend itself.

Animal	Adaptation	What does it help them do?
 armadillo	This animal is covered with small plates made of toughened skin. When it rolls into a ball, the plates cover the soft part of its body.	
 dromedary camel	This animal has large feet that do not sink in the sand.	
 uakari monkey	This animal has a red face that gets brighter if it gets angry or excited.	
 electric eel	This animal generates as much as 500 volts of electricity to stun its prey.	
 hyena	This animal makes different noises. It growls, grunts, whines and yelps. Sometimes it sounds like hysterical laughter.	
 ladybug	This insect has bright colors to show birds that it tastes unpleasant.	

LIVEWORKSHEETS