


Racoons Adaptations

Label the structural adaptions S and behavioural adaptations B or SB for both.



A raccoon's diet is not limited in the forests as they are agile fishers and can carry their meals across rivers and streams with their strong hands.

Being excellent climbers, raccoons avoid predators and when encountering one, they can quickly climb trees and defend themselves.

Raccoons have sold bone structures that can withstand falls up to 40 feet and suffer no injuries.

Raccoons do not hibernate, however, they sleep for extended periods of time in the winter and survive off their stored fat.

Human-like hands that allow a raccoon to search for food in hard to reach places and to climb on anything.

Racoons can eat just about anything. They eat berries, seeds, insects, frogs, mice and even rubbish.

Racoons natural habitat is in forests. Racoons are adaptable when it comes to finding a home and will live anywhere such as tree stump hollows, caves, woodchuck burrows, deserted buildings or attics of occupied buildings.

Racoons have powerful legs and are incredibly fast runners and strong swimmers.

Racoons have sharp teeth and claws

Racoons can hold their own against some predators, fighting off animals almost twice their size with fierce tenacity.

The main defence the animal has in avoiding most predators is its nocturnal lifestyle.

Choose one response for Part A, and one response for Part B, to complete the statements below.

Part A/ hands - strong bones - powerful legs - claws Part B/ behavioural - structural

Racoons normally live in a forest environment. As a result, they need the ability to climb trees, for protection and to find food. (A) _____ are a (B) _____ adaptation that helps them

Part A/ hands - strong bones - powerful legs - claws Part B/ behavioural - structural

Because Racoons often hunt is rivers and streams, they need to be good swimmers. (A) _____ are a (B) _____ adaptation that enables them to do this.

Part A/ hands - strong bones - powerful legs - claws Part B/ behavioural - structural

When food is scarce in their natural environment, Racoons will search for food in towns and cities. This is a (B) _____ adaptation. (A) _____ are a (B) _____ adaptation that enables them to search for food in hard to reach places like bins and drains.

Part A/ hands - strong bones - powerful legs - claws Part B/ behavioural - structural

Moving from a forest to an urban environment is a (B) _____ adaptation. In urban environments. Racoons must be able to climb houses, fences and other man-made structures. (A) _____ are (B) _____ adaptations that enable this.

Choose your own words words from the text to finish the sentences below.

Racoons are found in North America which has a _____ climate. As a result, winters can be very cold and the weather can be wet and snowy. During this time Racoons will sleep for long periods which is similar to _____. This is a _____ adaptation that helps Racoons to _____.