Word Bank

adaptations
conserve
native plants
environment

Plants and animals have _____that help them survive in their _____ .

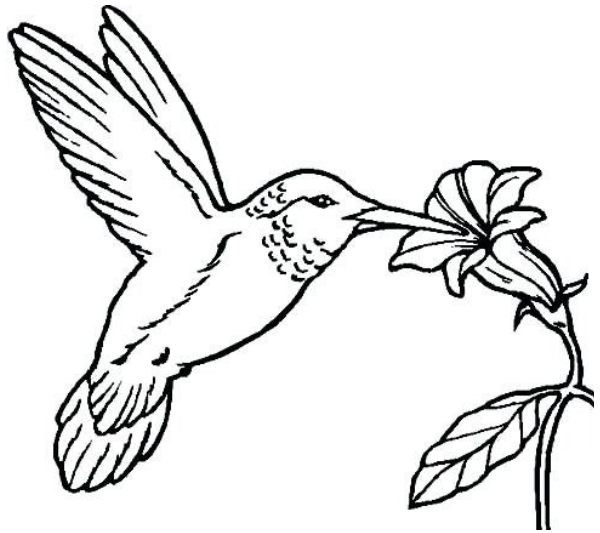
Many Southern California _____ have special features that help them survive long, hot, dry summers.

They also have special features that protect them from animals. For example, the Coast Live Oak Tree has small pointed leaves that both _____ water and discourage thirsty animals from eating them.

Glossary

Conserve: To save or protect from loss.
Native plant: A plant that develops and grows naturally in a particular region.
Environment: The surroundings or conditions in which an animal or plant lives.
Adaptations: Special features that help plants and animals survive in a particular place. This explains why certain plants are found in one area, but not in another.

Adaptations Journal



Name: _____

Plants have special features, called adaptations, that help them survive.

- Over time, an environment affects how a plant adapts.
- In southern California, plants adapted to survive, long, hot, dry summers and short, cool, wet winters.
- Since plants can't move, they need to be able to protect themselves from wildlife– but sometimes they depend on wildlife to help them.

Use this journal to take a closer look at how the plants and animals around you adapt and help each other.

Take a look around.

Can you find any plants that have these adaptations:

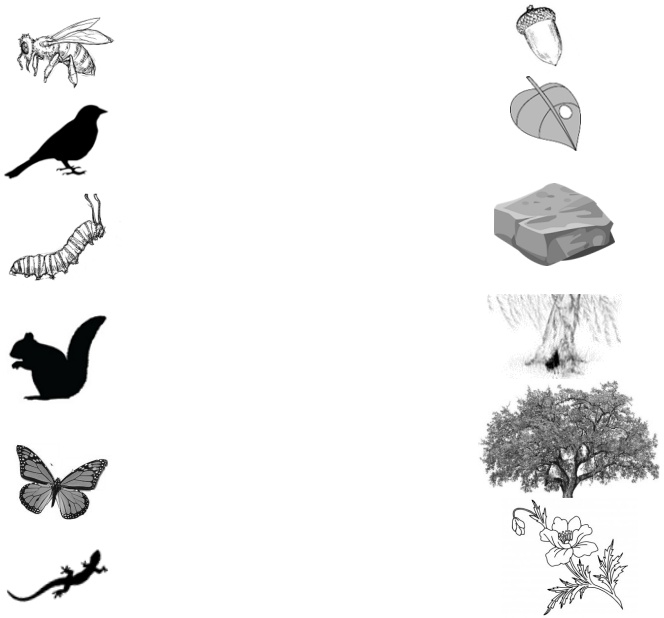
- ☐  Sharp points for protection.
- ☐  Thick bark for protection.
- ☐  Berries to attract animals who spread seeds.
- ☐  Colorful flowers to attract pollinators.
- ☐  Small leaves to prevent water loss.
- ☐  Fuzzy leaves to prevent water loss.

Choose a plant to observe. Make a drawing below and label any adaptations you notice.

Plants and animals depend on each other to survive.

- Animals find shelter and protection in trees and plants.
- Pollinators, such as birds, insects and small mammals, spread a flower's pollen.
- Plants provide food in many forms, including leaves and seeds.

Connect the animal with all the plants or plant parts it interacts with:



Can you think of another example of how a plant and animal depend on each other?