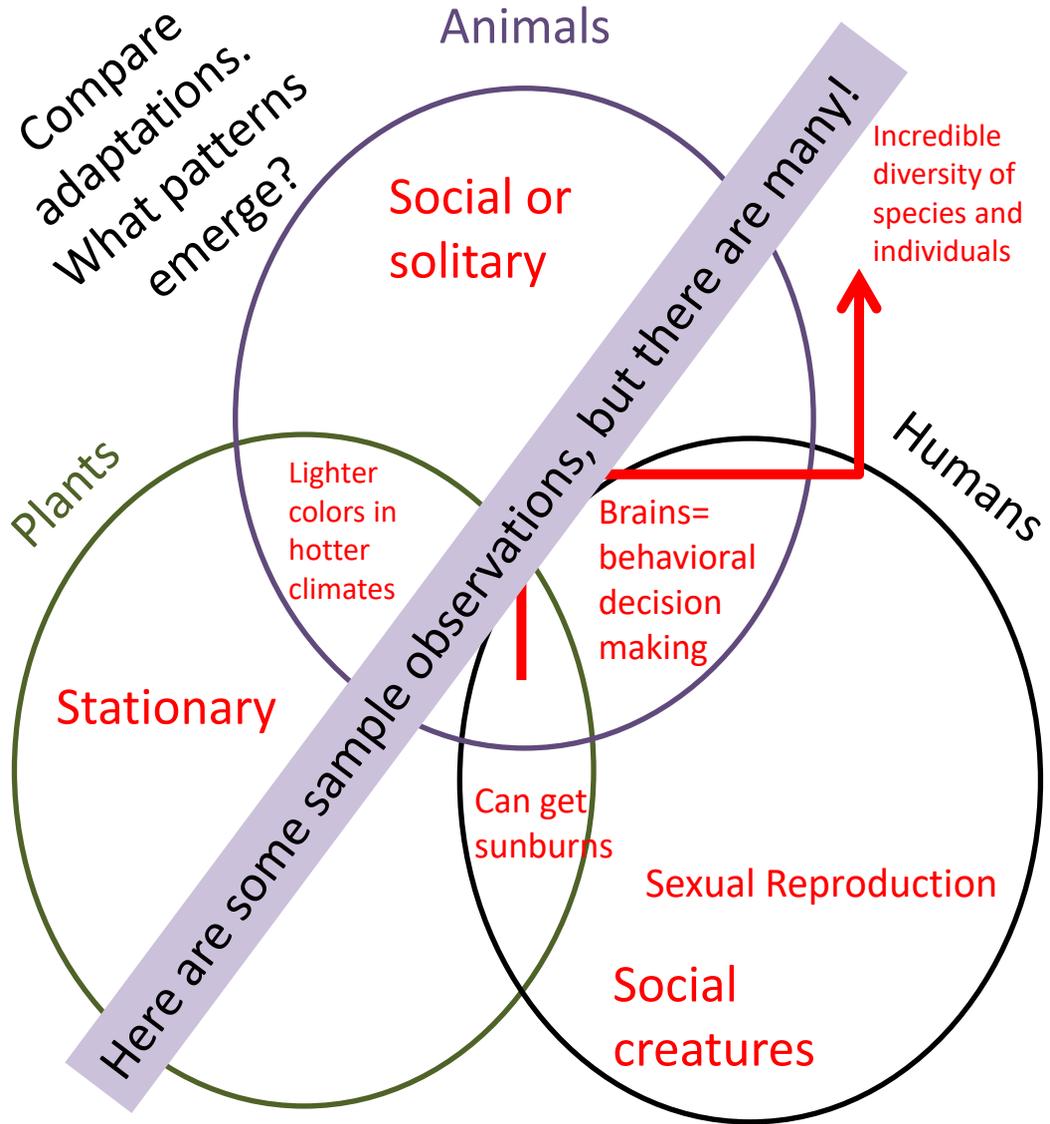
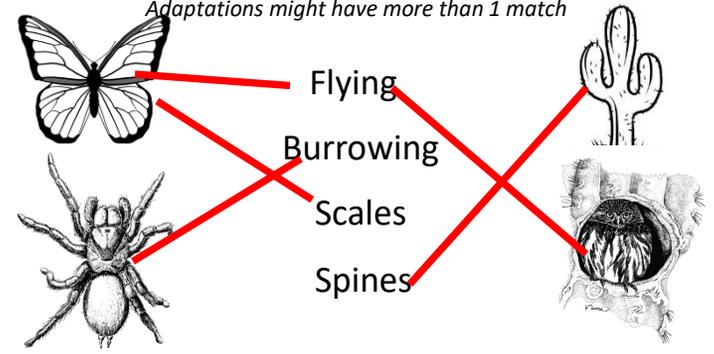


Name _____ Date _____



ADAPTATIONS are features or behaviors that help a plant or animal survive in its environment.

Match the *adaptations* to the picture!
Adaptations might have more than 1 match



Get outside! Send us a pic showing how we're all connected.
Email or scan to: education@desertmuseum.org

@desertmuseum



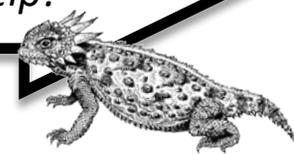
Want more? Go to:
www.desertmuseum.org

ARIZONA-SONORA
DESERT MUSEUM

Adapt: to fit, adjust, modify

Explore **adaptations** at the Desert Museum!

Hint: You can ask a docent for help!



I Spy: Plants!

Describe 2 features that help desert plants catch and store water.

1. **Agave leaves funnel water to the plant's roots**

2. **Cacti can physically expand to hold water in tissue when it rains**



I Spy: Mountains!

Bigger animals like mountain lions and bears are more common in mountain woodlands than in low deserts. Why?

Bergmann's Rule: larger animals have a smaller surface area to volume ratio, which retains heat. The opposite is true: smaller animals are more prevalent in hotter places



I Spy: Water!

Fish move efficiently through water. List two *adaptations* that help them swim.

1. **Streamlined shape and smooth scales help reduce friction for more efficient swimming**

2. **Fish have swim bladders that they can inflate or deflate depending on how close to the surface they need to be**



Find A Saguaro Draw it!

Here are some sample observations, but there are many correct answers!



Do saguaros help animals survive?

Yes No

What's your evidence?

Saguaros are homes for many bird species and provide food for birds, bats, bugs, mammals and reptiles

I Spy: Habitats!

The Sonoran Desert region has many types of environments. How many can you name? (Hint: look at the exhibit areas on the Museum map)

**Mountain Woodlands, Desert Grasslands, Riparian areas, Ocean Others:
Thornscrub, Chaparral, Temperate Forest, Tropical Deciduous Forest**



I Spy: Animals!

Desert animals have *adaptations* that help them survive in hot environments, like burrowing to avoid the sun.

A) Find an animal to observe.

B) What is it? Desert Tortoise

C) What *adaptations* does it have to stay cool?

Light coloration, covered in scales which help retain moisture, dig burrows to escape heat

