

The background is a vibrant blue underwater scene. Sunlight filters down from the top center, creating a bright, hazy glow. In the lower right, there are dark, silhouetted shapes of coral or seaweed. The word "SEALIFE" is prominently displayed in the upper left quadrant.

SEALIFE

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Adaptation

Habitats

Animals can live in all sorts of different conditions, from deserts to polar ice caps; from mountain tops to rainforests.

Most animals have a particular set of conditions which they like to live in.

A place with this set of conditions is called their **habitat**. You can think of it as an animal's home.



Photo credit Timo Balk



Photo credit Ariel da Silva Parreira



Photo credit Brian Lary



Adaptation

Some animals live in habitats which are very difficult to survive in.

Over millions of years animals have adapted to their surroundings, making it easier for them to survive there.

This is called **adaptation**.



Adaptation

Animals can adapt in very different ways. Sometimes an animal will adapt to help it find food.

Sometimes it will adapt just to survive difficult conditions, like extreme hot or cold.



Photo credit Ariel da Silva Parreira



Adaptation

Here are a few of the different ways animals have adapted.

Seals have adapted to living in cold water because they have a thick layer of blubber to keep them warm and a streamlined shape which helps them to move through the water.



Adaptation

Stingrays have adapted by developing a very flat body. This allows them to bury themselves on the floor to avoid predators.

The clownfish lives in the venomous sea anemone. It has adapted so that it is immune to the venom and can use the anemone as protection from predators.



Conservation

It takes species millions of years to adapt to suit their environment.

Human activity can lead to an environment being changed very quickly. This could happen because of pollution, global warming or over fishing.



Conservation

Changes to an animal's environment could have very serious consequences; their adaptations may no longer suit the changing environment.



Conservation

You can do a few things to help take care of the environment.

- Try to eat sustainably sourced food.
- Try to save energy, by switching off electrical appliances when you are not using them.
- Make sure you recycle trash when possible.
- Treat the environment with care; always try to leave a natural environment as you found it.

