

Dear Educator:

Thank you for signing up for *Adaptation Artistry*, a 60-minute program explores how animals are adapted to their habitat and the impact of habitat loss on their survival.

*Adaptation Artistry* will answer the following Essential and Guiding questions:

- What happens to animals when their environment changes?
  - How are animals adapted to live in their environment?
  - Why is protecting animals and their habitats important?
  - What actions can people take to help protect animals and their habitats?

The Oregon Zoo hopes that as a result of this program, students will be able to:

- Define adaptation as a body feature or behavior that helps an organism survive, and differentiate between physical and behavioral adaptations.
- Identify what might happen to animals if their habitats are destroyed.
- Name two actions they and their families can take to help protect healthy ecosystems.
- Feel an increased appreciation for live animals.

The program is correlated to the following academic standards:

**Next Generation Science Standards:**

4-LS1-1. Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.

***In an effort to prepare students for their Zoo School program, please consider the following activities:***

1. Take a virtual trip around the world to explore different habitats (e.g. desert, rainforest, and savannah) and the animals that live in each.  
*Habitats of the World* (Discovery Education)  
<http://www.discoveryeducation.com/teachers/free-lesson-plans/habitats-of-the-world.cfm>
2. Explore ways animals are adapted to their habitat by reading aloud the following books:
  - *Even An Octopus Needs a Home* (2011) by Irene Kelly
  - *Claws, Coats and Camouflage: The Ways Animals Fit Into Their World* (2001) by Susan Goodman

***Continue the learning after we leave your classroom with the following enrichment activities:***

1. Assess what students have learned about animal adaptations through one of the following activities:
  - *Designer Animal* (Hot Chalks Lesson Plans) by Rachael Kerr  
<http://lessonplanspage.com/scienceanimaladaptations58.htm/>

- *STEAM Project: Create-An-Animal* (Teaching Forward: Preparing Today's Teachers for Tomorrow's Digital Learners) by Jenn Judkins  
<http://teachingforward.net/2015/04/15/steam-project-create-an-animal/>
2. Protect local wildlife by organizing a service project to restore native habitats. A number of organizations are available to help you organize a project in your area:
- Hillsboro Parks and Recreation – Works with teachers in the Hillsboro School District  
<https://www.hillsboro-oregon.gov/index.aspx?page=1144>
  - Metro – Works with teachers throughout the Portland Metro area  
<http://www.oregonmetro.gov/how-metro-works/volunteer-opportunities/group-volunteer-opportunities>