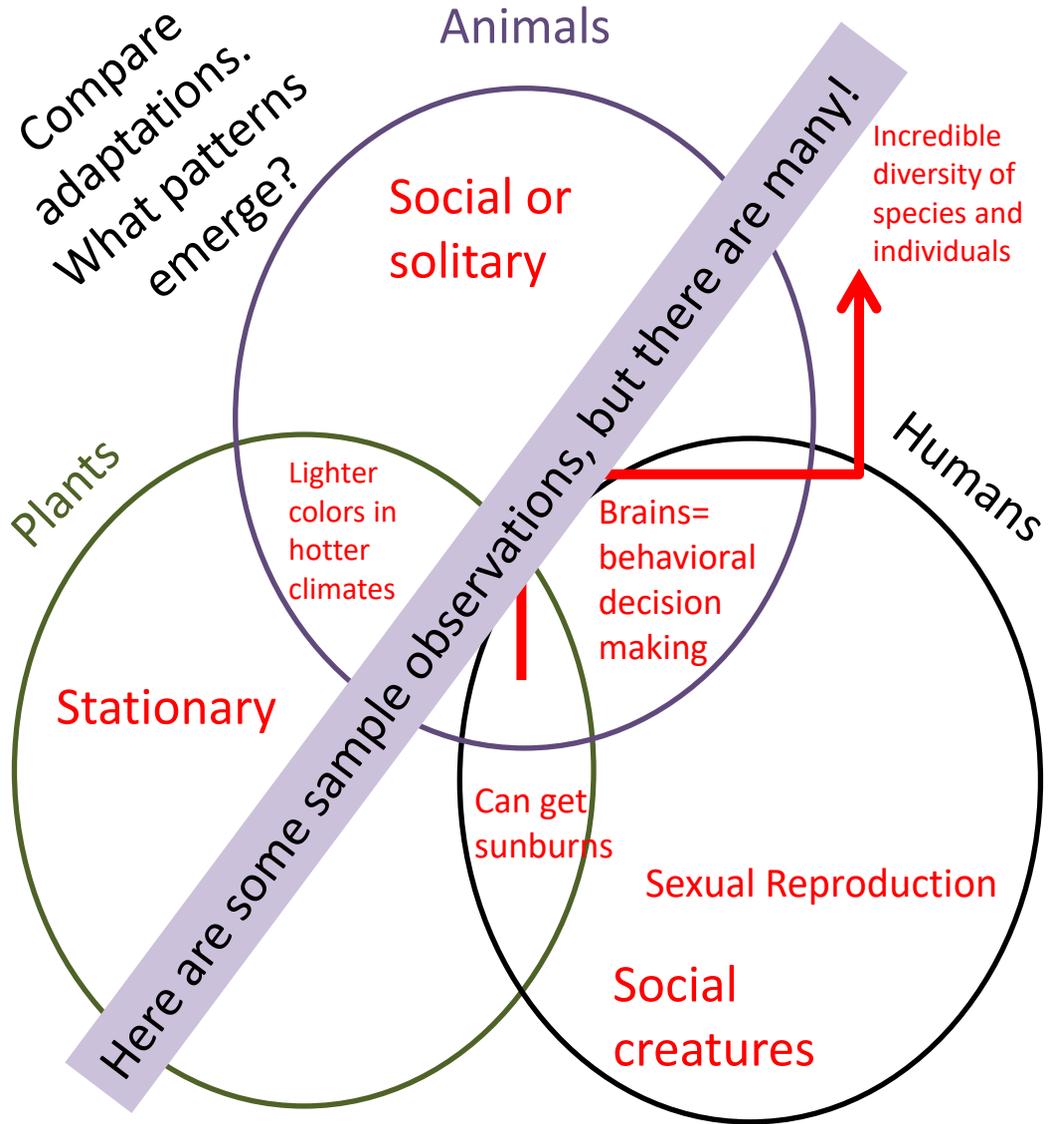
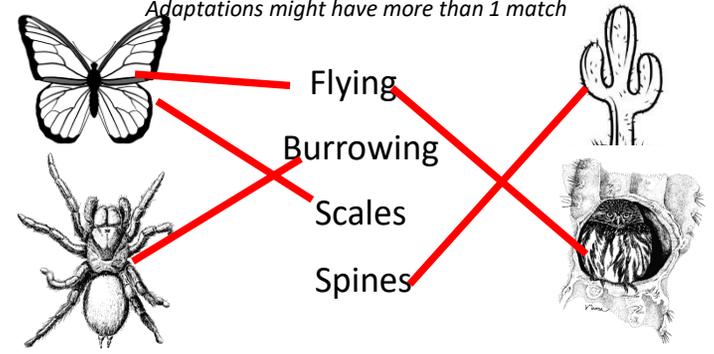


Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



**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*



**Adapt: to fit, adjust, modify**

Explore **adaptations** at the Desert Museum!

*Hint: You can ask a docent for help!*

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

@desertmuseum



Want more? Go to:  
[www.desertmuseum.org](http://www.desertmuseum.org)

ARIZONA-SONORA  
**DESERT MUSEUM**



## 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**

