

Arizona Wildlife Podcast Comprehension Activity

Episode 1: Arizona's Diversity

Part A: Each list below contains four words. Three of them related to each other based on the podcast. One of them does not fit. Circle the word that does not fit and explain your reason.

1. Great Basin

Sahara

Chihuahuan

Mojave

All of these are deserts. However, the Sahara Desert is found in Africa while the other three are found in Arizona.

2. Nocturnal

Diurnal

Chaparral

Crepuscular

Chaparral is a habitat type while the other three are names for different times that animals are active.

3. Camouflage

Migration

Hibernation

Nocturnal

Camouflage is an example of a physical adaptation while the other three are examples of behavioral adaptations.

Part B: Each statement below is incorrect. Determine what is wrong with each one and make changes so they will be correct.

- The ~~Chihuahuan~~ (Mojave) Desert is a cold desert.
- There are ~~no~~ (two) places in the state where alpine tundra can be found.
- Arizona has more species of bats than every state ~~except~~ Texas.

Part C: Define each of the terms below and provide an example. *Note: The examples provided were ones mentioned in the podcast. Your students may come up with others.*

- Behavioral adaptation – specific actions or behaviors of an animal that help them to survive. Examples: migration, hibernation, estivation, burrowing.
- Bergmann's Rule – the general idea that body increases (animals get larger) in cooler climates. Example: raccoons in Arizona being smaller than raccoons in Minnesota.
- Crepuscular – animals that are primarily active at twilight, or sunrise and sunset. Example: rabbits.
- Estivation – a period when animals become dormant during hot or dry season, often compared to a summer form of hibernation. Example: desert tortoises burrowing into the ground during the summer months.
- Physical adaptation – specific features or parts of an animal or plant that allow them to survive. Examples: coloration, skull shape, claws.