

Chimpanzee Habitats – Adaptation (Answers)



Like other species, chimpanzees adapted, or went through changes to help them survive and reproduce in their natural environment. Classify each adaptation in the photograph as structural or behavioral.

Adaptation – a change in an organism that occurs to help it both survive and reproduce

Structural adaptation – physical features of an organism

Behavioral adaptation – a change in the way an organism acts



Having a large brain helps chimpanzees form relationships.	Behavioral
Chimpanzees have likes and dislikes just like you and me.	Behavioral
Color vision helps chimpanzees notice details in their environment.	Structural
Forward facing eyes means binocular vision, which helps chimpanzees accurately judge distance.	Structural
A good sense of smell helps chimpanzees find food and hear other chimpanzees pant hoot.	Structural
Large ears give chimpanzees great hearing, and the ability to hear things far away.	Structural
Chimpanzees get excited when they hear other chimpanzees making a pant hoot or food grunt.	Behavioral

Flexible toes and an opposable big toe help chimpanzees pick up and hold objects.	Structural
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Long arms help chimpanzees climb trees.	Structural
Long fingers and short thumbs allow chimpanzees to brachiate and swing through tree branches.	Structural
Chimpanzees are social and do things together and apart.	Behavioral
Chimpanzees problem solve with and without tools.	Behavioral

Chimpanzee Habitats– Discussion Questions (Answers)



1. What do you enjoy doing in your habitat that you couldn't do in a chimpanzee habitat?

- Examples may include cooking, watching TV, or going shopping, etc.
- Encourage creativity!

2. What is the difference between a structural and behavioral adaptation? What are some of your human adaptations? Are they behavioral or structural?

Structural vs. Behavioral Adaptation

- structural adaptation involves the animal's body
- behavioral adaptation is a change in the way an animal acts

Human Adaptations

- examples of human structural adaptation include walking upright on two feet, swimming
- examples of human behavioral adaptations include using tools

3. What are some of the things Hobbes' group did when they were introduced to the forested habitat?

- climbing trees
- using tools
- drinking from a moat
- patrolling through a forest
- foraging

4. What are some of the threats that chimpanzees face in their natural habitats and what could you do to help them?

Threats

- logging
- hunting
- mining
- infectious diseases

Ways to help

- Recycle cell phones, computers and other electronics
- Reduce, reuse, recycle
- Read and learn about chimpanzees

5. What are some of the threats that humans face in their natural habitats and what could you do to help?

Threats

- extinction of animals
- loss of ecosystems
- food insecurity
- chemical pollution
- decline of natural resources
- disease
- climate change

Ways to help

- talk about the issues with friends, family, and classmates
- read and learn
- reduce, reuse, and recycle
- take care of yourself and your health
- respect your environment and other animals

6. Discuss the consequences of human activities on other ecosystems.

- loss of natural habitats
- loss of oxygen producers
- pollution
- overuse of non-renewable resources
- extinction of animals



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