



# Adaptation, Migration & Hibernation



**Length:** 20 mins

**Group size:** 4 +

**Complementary themes:**

**Energy Level:** Medium

**Age:** 8 +

- Wild Animals
- Behaviours & Adaptations

**Materials:** Hula-hoops, pylons and pictures of animals

## Outline:

Participants learn about Adaptation, Migration and Hibernation through a tag game. Learn to define adaptation, migration and hibernation and identify some animals that use these methods to survive colder temperatures and changed landscapes

## Directions:

- Go through each photo and discuss whether the animal uses hibernation, adaptation, migration or a combination.
- Post the photos of animals around the room or scatter them face up in the field.
- To practise and warm up, call out one of the three terms, hibernation, migration or adaptation. When participants hear one called out, they must run and stand next to an animal that does this. If inside, have participants touch the wall just beneath the photo. If outside, have a hula-hoop around each photo and they should have a foot inside it.
- Once they are comfortable, choose a person to be "it."
- Leaders call out one of the three terms. Participants are only safe if they are touching the wall/have a foot in the hula-hoop of an animal that does that thing.
- Those who are tagged are eliminated and the game runs until only one person is left.

## The Facts:

As temperatures drop and landscapes change from green to white, animals need to change their appearance, behaviours and/or location in order to survive.

## Three strategies:

- Adaptation: An animal can adapt to their surrounding by changing their fur colour or plumage to better camouflage them into their surroundings for summer and winter. They can also adapt their behaviour so they come out less, hoard food, etc .
- Migration: Animals can also migrate to other more friendly environments where conditions are easier to find food and keep warm.
- Hibernation: Some animals skip the hard times entirely by sleeping until the weather improves and it is easier to find food and stay warm.

## Discussion:

- Do we do any of these things?
- Can you think of other animals that migrate? Hibernate? Adapt to their surroundings?

Adaptation, Migration, Hibernation?



Adaptation, Migration, Hibernation?





