

Comparing plant and animal adaptations

**Activity 2**

**Comparing plant and animal adaptations**

**(Level 5)**

Rod Bird ©

Investigate the adaptations of grassland and granite outcrop organisms within the BWVP Mt Rothwell Virtual Tour by completing the following questions.

1. Access each of the points along the trail from the aerial map view and study the features to determine whether the point is found in a grassland or granite outcrop. Record your results in the table below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Point** | **Grassland habitat** | **Granite outcrop habitat** |
| 1 |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |
| 7 |  |  |
| 8 |  |  |
| 9 |  |  |
| 10 |  |  |
| 11 |  |  |

1. Describe the granite outcrop habitat?

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1. Describe the grassland habitat?

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All organisms have adaptations that enable them to survive and thrive. Some adaptations are structural, which are physical features of an organism e.g. the beak of a bird. Other adaptations are behavioural. These are the behaviours an organism uses to survive e.g. a bird’s call.

You will identify some structural adaptations of animals and determine why the animal lives in a particular habitat.

1. Identify three animals that live in the grassland and granite outcrop habitats. Use the BWVP Flora and Fauna Field Guide to determine their structural adaptations or physical characteristics (look up the identifying characteristics and distinctive markings).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Grassland fauna** | **Physical characteristics** | **Granite outcrop fauna** | **Physical characteristics** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

1. Could the selected animals live in one or both habitats?

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1. Look up the following points along the trail to find an example of a plant or animal adaptation. Identify whether it is a behavioural or structural adaptation.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Point** | **Name of plant or animal** | **Adaptation** | **Structural or behavioural adaptation** |
| 3B |  |  |  |
| 3D |  |  |  |
| 6A |  |  |  |
| 6C |  |  |  |
| 8D |  |  |  |
| 8E |  |  |  |

Conclusion

1. How does the granite outcrop and grassland habitat vary?

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1. Identify animals found in the granite outcrop?

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1. Identify animals found in the grassland habitat?

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1. What is the difference between a structural and behavioural adaptation?

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1. Identify an adaptation for a grassland plant or animal. Note whether this is structural or behavioural.

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1. Identify an adaptation for a granite outcrop plant or animal. Note whether this is structural or behavioural.

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