

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Science Quick fire #45

Animals

**Directions:** Read the following information and answer the questions that follow. All 100% Quick fire challenges will make the Quick fire wall!

Animals require air, water, and food in order to live and survive.

All animals grow, take in nutrients, breathe, reproduce, eliminate waste and die.

All animals/humans have a digestive system.

The digestive system travels from the mouth → esophagus → stomach → small intestine → large intestine → out of the body.

Animals have different ways of movement. Birds use their wings, fish use their fins, and others use their legs. Animals need to move so they can find a safe place to live (and eat).

Animals use parts of their bodies to do different things:

To help them move (i.e. fish use fins).

To protect themselves (claws on lobsters/crabs)

Camouflage: the ability of certain animals to change the color of their skin to adapt to the settings around them. Camouflage helps protect animals.

Defense Mechanism: Some animals protect themselves by giving off an odor, or a sound. One example is the skunk.

Some animal behaviors are influenced by environmental conditions. These behaviors may include nest building, hibernating, hunting, migrating, and communicating.

Nest building refers to animals making homes for their offspring.

Some animals will spend the winter inactive. This is called hibernating. But before they can hibernate, they must gather food (either by hunting or gathering) and eat it to increase their body size.

For some animals, it is too cold to stay in certain places for the winter. They will migrate, or move to areas that are warmer. <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Information taken and often quoted directly from Barron's New York State Grade 4 Elementary-Level Science Test Review book, written by Joyce Thronton Barry and Kathleen Cahill.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Science Quick fire #5

Animals (continued)

**Directions: Read the following information and we will take a Kahoot! Challenge on the information listed.**

Individual organisms change over time. These changes (also known as adaptations) depend on the environment. Adaptations are passed from generation to generation (parents pass them to their children) so that the organism can survive, and thrive (live well).

How have animals adapted?

- Fish developed gills – these slits on the sides of their bodies help them breathe under water.
- Camels – camels can go a long time without needing water, making them perfect to live in the desert (so can cactus plants, which primarily live also in the deserts. Do other plants survive in the desert?)
- Birds – the different types of beaks that birds have help them eat the food that they need to survive. The shape, strength and design of the beak varies depending on whether it is a bird of prey, a seed eater, or a fish eater.
- Elephants – long trunks help them grab food and water (you don't see any hands on an elephant, do you?) Their big ears help them hear predators that might come to hunt them.

The length of time from an animal's birth to its death is called its life span. The type of environment they live in and various environmental factors can have a direct effect on organisms. Life spans of different animals vary.

The health, growth and development of organisms are affected by environmental conditions such as:

- the availability of food
- air
- water
- space
- shelter
- heat/ sunlight.

Growth is when plants and animals increase in size. All living things are constantly going through some form of growth and repair. As an organism moves into an adult stage of life, they continue to grow. Think about it, people always have to get haircuts and their nails cut. When an animal breaks a bone, it heals. The healing is done by the body growing new bone cells to repair the break. Think about the last time you cut yourself. After a short time, the cut healed. Usually, your body can heal from a cut without any scar remaining. This happens because your body is always growing and making new skin cells.