

The image features a light-colored, marbled background with soft, wavy patterns in shades of cream and pale yellow. A dark, thin branch runs horizontally across the lower half of the frame. Two dried, brownish leaves are attached to the branch: one on the left side, pointing upwards and slightly to the right, and another on the right side, pointing downwards and slightly to the left. The text "Behavioral & Structural Adaptations" is centered in the upper half of the image in a dark brown, serif font.

# Behavioral & Structural Adaptations



# Adaptations

An adaptation is a way an animal's body helps it survive, or live, in its environment.

An adaptation is a trait that makes an animal suited to its environment. It can be a behavioral or a structural trait.



# Behavioral Adaptations

- Organisms have behavioral adaptations, or certain types of activities they perform, which help them meet a life need.
- Behavioral adaptations include activities that help an animal survive.
- Behavioral adaptations can be learned or instinct (a behavior an animal is born with).
- Behavioral changes can change quickly.

# Examples:

- ❖ Some animals live in groups, while others live by themselves



❖ Some animals migrate like geese and butterflies for better food supply and climate



- ❖ The opossum "plays" dead for protection from its enemies



- ❖ Some animals "freeze" for protection like rabbits



❖ Some animals hibernate to survive through the winter like bears and bats



❖ An animal's instinct







# Structural Adaptation

- Structural adaptations are physical features of an organism like a fin on a fish or feathers on a bird.
- A structural adaptation involves some part of an animal's body such as body movement, body coverings, type of appendages, and body shape.
- Structural adaptation happens over a long period of time by changing the animal's genetic traits.

# Examples:

- ❖ Structural characteristics like a giraffe's long neck or an elephant's long trunk.



❖ Fins for swimming, wings for flying, legs for running, or type of teeth



❖ Camouflage where an animals blends into its surroundings like a chameleon that changes color according to its surroundings



❖ Mimicry which allows one animal to look, sound, or act like another animal to fool predators into thinking it is poisonous or dangerous like the king snake.

