

Prehensile Tail

Large Eyes

## Prehensile Tail

- This is a long tail that can grasp and hold objects.
- Some have a bare “friction patch” to aid gripping.
- Animal Examples: monkey, possum  
In Zion: none known

## Large Eyes

- These are large eyeballs with extra-wide pupils.
- Large eyes can collect and process more light, improving vision in low-light and nighttime situations.
- Animal Examples: owls, mice  
In Zion: Mexican spotted owl, kangaroo rat

Fast Speed

Changeable  
Pigmentation

## Fast Speed

- This helps animals catch prey or avoid predators.
- Fast speed typically comes in short sprints or bursts.
- Animal Examples: cheetah, antelope  
In Zion: peregrine falcon, black-tailed jackrabbit

## Changeable Pigmentation

- This is a special type of camouflage.
- The color and pattern of an animal's skin changes to match the surrounding environment.
- Animal Examples: chameleon, squid  
In Zion: canyon treefrog

Large Ears

Omnivorous Diet

## Large Ears

- These trap more sound allowing better hearing.
- Large ears can help cool the body by allowing heat to escape through the many exposed blood vessels.
- Animal Examples: mules, elephants  
In Zion: mule deer, desert cottontail

## Omnivorous Diet

- This animal will eat both plants and animals.
- Omnivores typically have different types of teeth (flat and pointed) for use on different types of food.
- Animal Examples: humans, pigs  
In Zion: ringtail, coyote

# Sound Making

# Great Swimming Ability

## Sound Making

- This is a helpful feature for communication.
- Sounds can be chirps, wails, cries, songs, etc.
- Animal Examples: whale, cricket  
In Zion: house finch, coyote

## Great Swimming Ability

- This helps animals live in or near water.
- Swimming ability is found in animals that live in water both full and part time.
- Animal Examples: dolphin, otter  
In Zion: beaver, Virgin River spinedace

# Waterproof Coat

# Scales

## Waterproof Coat

- This is a layer of fur or feathers waterproofed with oil produced by the body.
- Like a raincoat, the oil keeps water from penetrating the animal's fur or feathers.
- Animal Examples: duck, sea otter  
In Zion: beaver, American dipper

## Scales

- These are small, stiff plates that grow from an animal's skin.
- On reptiles, scales help protect the animal and also help keep the animal from drying out.
- Animal Examples: snake, lizard  
In Zion: all snakes, lizards, and the desert tortoise

# Invisibility

# Fire Breath

## Invisibility

- This is a mythical (imaginary) adaptation. In this state, animals cannot be seen.
- Invisibility might be used to evade predators or hunt prey.
- Animal Examples: unicorn  
In Zion: none

## Fire Breath

- This is a mythical adaptation. The animal exhales fire.
- Fire breath might be used for defense or attack.
- Animal Examples: dragon  
In Zion: none

# Flashy Coloration

# Camouflage

## Flashy Coloration

- This is like an advertisement, used to communicate something to other animals.
- Flashy coloration can be used to attract mates, warn predators or fend off rivals.
- Animal Examples: parrot, poison dart frog  
In Zion: monarch butterfly, striped skunk

## Camouflage

- This allows an animal to blend into its surroundings.
- Camouflage may be solid colors or markings (like a tiger's or zebra's stripes).
- Animal Examples: tiger, grasshopper  
In Zion: bighorn sheep, gartersnake

Long Neck

Sticky Feet and  
Toes

## Long Neck

- An long neck extends the animal's reach.
- Long necks can be used to get food or watch for predators.
- Animal Examples: giraffe, ostrich  
In Zion: wild turkey, California condor

## Sticky Feet and Toes

- These are surfaces on the feet and toes that help the animal cling (hold) to vertical surfaces.
- Sticking ability can come from tiny hairs, sticky mucus, or discs that work like suction cups.
- Animal Examples: gecko, octopus  
In Zion: Zion snail, canyon treefrog

Fur

Horns

## Fur

- Fur is a covering of hair.
- Some animals have multiple fur layers for extra warmth. Others have fur that changes color or thickness based on the season.
- Animal Examples: bear, dog  
In Zion: bobcat, muskrat

## Horns

- These are permanent bone structures on an animal's head, most often in a pair.
- Horns are used for defense, communication and courtship.
- Animal Examples: bulls, rhinosceros  
In Zion: desert bighorn sheep

# Compound Eyes

# Whiskers

## Compound Eyes

- These eyes are made up of many small lenses instead of one large one like a human's.
- Compound eyes allow a larger angle of view and better detection of fast movement.
- Animal Examples: bees, crabs  
In Zion: dragonflies, butterflies

## Whiskers

- These are special stiff hairs or feathers used for feeling.
- Whiskers usually grow from the face but are also found on the feet or legs.
- Animal Examples: housecat, mouse  
In Zion: bobcat, desert woodrat

Long Tongue

Wings

## Long Tongue

- This is not only used for taste but also for grabbing food.
- Some tongues are so long they curl inside the mouth.
- Animal Examples: cow, frog  
In Zion: sphinx moth, collared lizard

## Wings

- Wings are typically used for flight.
- Wings come in many shapes, sizes, and sometimes in pairs.
- Animal Examples: birds, flies  
In Zion: bats, birds

# Stinking Spray

# Eyespots

## Stinking Spray

- This bad or strong smelling liquid can be ejected from the body.
- Some sprays are used for defense; others for territory marking.
- Animal Examples: skunk, housecat  
In Zion: striped skunk, spotted skunk

## Eyespots

- These are markings which appear to be, but are not, eyes.
- They are good for scaring or confusing predators and may even be used for communication and courtship.
- Animal Examples: peacock, butterfly fish  
In Zion: Northern pygmy owl, some butterflies

Stinger

Sharp Quills

## Stinger

- This is a sharp body part that pierces another animal and delivers some type of venom.
- They are usually located at the tail end and may be used for defense or offense.
- Animal Examples: wasp, hornet  
In Zion: scorpion, honey bee

## Sharp Quills

- Quills are long, stiff hairs with barbed ends.
- Animals cannot shoot their quills, but can move their body so the quills are more prominent.
- Animal Examples: porcupine, hedgehog  
In Zion: porcupine

Hibernation/  
Estivation

Migration

## Hibernation/Estivation

- This is a period of dormancy when an animal is inactive to avoid temperature extremes.
- During hibernation an animal avoids cold conditions. In estivation the animal to avoids extreme heat.
- Animal Examples: groundhog (hibernation)  
crocodile (estivation)  
In Zion: lizards (hibernation)  
desert tortoise (estivation)

## Migration

- This is a seasonal movement to better habitat.
- Migration may be triggered by changing seasons, changing climate, or a need for food.
- Animal Examples: many songbirds, wildebeest  
In Zion: most songbirds, monarch butterflies

Sharp Canine  
Teeth

Large Hind Legs

## Sharp Canine Teeth

- There are long, pointed teeth, sometimes called fangs.
- They are used for holding and tearing food and occasionally for defense.
- Animal Examples: dog, tiger  
In Zion: coyote, mountain lion

## Large Hind Legs

- These enlarged back legs help animals jump high or long distances.
- They are often used for escaping predators.
- Animal Examples: kangaroo, frogs  
In Zion: kangaroo rat, canyon treefrog