

**Grade Level: 3-5**

**Benchmark Standard Addressed:** SC.5.L.17.1 Compare and contrast adaptations displayed by animals and plants that enable them to survive in different environments such as life cycles variations, animal behaviors and physical characteristics.

**Time for lesson, with videos:** 30-45 minutes

## Touch Tank Adaptations Lesson

Consider the adaptations of each of the following touch tank critters. An adaptation is any characteristic, behavior, structure, or function that helps an organism survive in its environment. Sketch the habitat each animal lives in, then consider the challenges each animal might face within their habitat.

<b>Hermit Crab</b>	<b>Fighting Conch</b>
Habitat sketch:	Habitat sketch:
Adaptations:	Adaptations:
How adaptation helps the animal:	How adaptation helps the animal:

## Touch Tank Adaptations Lesson (cont.)

Consider the adaptations of each of the following touch tank critters. An adaptation is any characteristic, behavior, structure, or function that helps an organism survive in its environment. Sketch the habitat each animal lives in, then consider the challenges each animal might face within their habitat.

<b>Horseshoe Crab</b>	<b>Decorator Sea Urchin</b>
Habitat sketch:	Habitat sketch:
Adaptations:	Adaptations:
How adaptation helps the animal:	How adaptation helps the animal:

## Reflection Questions

### What does the animal eat?

Hermit Crab:

Decorator Sea Urchin:

Fighting Conch:

Horseshoe Crab:

### What are the animals predators?

Hermit Crab:

Decorator Sea Urchin:

Fighting Conch:

Horseshoe Crab:

### What challenges does this animal face in its habitat?

Hermit Crab:

Decorator Sea Urchin:

Fighting Conch:

Horseshoe Crab:

### Use your imagination. Are there other adaptations that would help this animal survive if they could develop them?

Hermit Crab:

Decorator Sea Urchin:

Fighting Conch:

Horseshoe Crab: