

Plant Adaptations

Plants adapt in different ways because they need to survive in challenging environments, and science explains this through natural selection. Leaves often change shape or size depending on the environment—for example, large leaves help capture more sunlight in shady forests, while tiny leaves reduce water loss in hot deserts. Roots also adapt, such as deep roots that reach underground water or wide, shallow roots that quickly soak up rainfall. Stems may grow thick to store water, like in cacti, or climb and stretch to reach sunlight in crowded forests. For protection, some plants develop thorns, spines, or even chemicals to keep animals from eating them. These adaptations happen because plants with traits that help them survive are more likely to live long enough to reproduce, passing on those useful traits to future generations.

Key Words: (3-5 words per sentence)

1. _____, _____, _____, _____, _____
2. _____, _____, _____, _____, _____
3. _____, _____, _____, _____, _____
4. _____, _____, _____, _____, _____
5. _____, _____, _____, _____, _____
6. _____, _____, _____, _____, _____

Paragraph Re-Write
