

Name _____

Date _____

The Best Defense

Animal Adaptations

Defensive Adaptations

Read each statement. Name the animal's defensive adaptation and explain how you think the adaptation helps protect the animal.

ability to flight
camouflage

stinging
hiding in a safe place

stinging dead
sting to a body part

chemical defense
protective body parts



1. A shark eats but smelly liquid.	2. A hedgehog rolls up into a ball, leaving its sharp spines sticking out.	3. A glass lizard's tail can break off and flop about as if it's alive.	4. A ptarmigan's feathers are reddish-brown in the summer and white in the winter.
5. An impala can run 30 miles an hour.	6. A North American opossum closes its eyes and becomes totally limp.	7. A walkingstick insect has long thin legs and a long body that makes it look like a stick.	8. A gopher spends its entire life in the trees, staying off the ground.

Answer: Name a different animal for each type of defensive adaptation.