

Create an Animal



VIRGINIA
AQUARIUM
& MARINE SCIENCE CENTER

Create an animal according to randomly assigned characteristics and consider the adaptations need for the animal to thrive in its environment.

Duration

Activity: Varies by level of assessment activity

Supplies

- Dice

Background

Students will create animals using the characteristics assigned to numbers on die. Students may be tempted to create an animal very similar to a real animal (like a carnivorous bird in the Arctic Ocean may be very much like a penguin). Ask students to be creative and find different ways that the animal can defend itself, find shelter, move, capture food, find mates, and survive any harsh elements associated with the chosen habitat.

Instructions

Roll the die for each category to determine the characteristics of a unique animal. Use the suggestions in the table provided. If the activity is used in a classroom setting, students can work in pairs.

Assessment Activities

The following list is composed of several suggestions for students to complete in order to develop, explore, and describe their animal.

- Written essay about the animal
- Poem describing the animal
- Drawing the animal
- Clay model of the animal
- 3D representation of the animal from household or art materials
- Diorama of the animal in its habitat, with food sources also represented
- Skit with simple costumes of the animal in its habitat
- Poster with drawings and written descriptions

	Number Rolled on Die	Characteristic
Habitat	1	Arctic Ocean
	2	Tropical Rainforest
	3	Desert
	4	Savanna
	5	Freshwater Pond
	6	Coral Reef
Animal	1	Reptile
	2	Mammal
	3	Bird
	4	Amphibian
	5	Insect
	6	Fish
Food	1	Carnivore
	2	Omnivore
	3	Herbivore
	4	Scavenger
	5	Parasite
	6	Free Choice