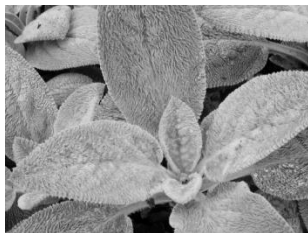


Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Plant Adaptations – Option 1

Plants develop characteristics that aid in their survival. Below are a few of these adaptations. Read the different scenarios below then match the characteristic that would aid a plant in this environment.

1. _____ This plant lives in a dry, temperate forest and is in danger of losing too much water through its stems. It also wants to ensure that it could survive a natural disaster like a fire or parasite infestation.
2. _____ This plant likes to grow in an upward direction and will often grow on other plants. Due to its length it must have a way to hold on as it grows so it does not fall.
3. _____ This plant lives on the sand dunes of many beaches. It must be able to survive in direct sunlight by developing some type of sunscreen. It also has developed a way to collect water on its leaves so it can use the morning dew for hydration.
4. _____ This plant grows along the muddy shores and in shallow water. It needs a way to stay upright and balanced in the waves as well as keep its trunk from becoming too saturated.
5. _____ This plant likes to grow high up on trees. Due to tiny roots it has found a different way to trap and store water. This also allows for other organisms to make a home. Bacteria, protozoa, fly larvae, frogs and birds rely on these little pools of water.
6. _____ This plant lives in the desert and rarely is exposed to water. It has developed a way to store a lot of water for future use. It also had to develop a way to keep animals from eating it for their own water supply.
7. _____ This plant smells tasty to many herbivores. It has evolved protection to deter those animals that may want to make it a meal.



“Hairy” leaves



Broad leaf base



Thick bark



Stilt roots



Tendrils



Thorns on stem



Succulent leaves with thorns