

Anatomical adaptation of plants

Definition of adaptation:

The adjustment or changes in behavior, physiology and structure of an organism to become more suited to an environment. It is derived from Latin word "*Adaptare*" which means "to fit".

Types of adaptation:

a. Structural adaptation

Body parts of an organism that helps them to survive

b. Behavioral adaptation:

Are the way something acts naturally or by instinct? It helps them to survive in environment.

Adaptation for Food:

Structural adaptations:

- Plants lean or grow toward the sun.
- Roots grow down into soil.
- Roots soak up water and nutrients from soil.
- Vines climb up trees to catch sunlight.

Behavioral adaptation:

- Plants like the Venus fly trap, trap insects for food.
- Desert flowers can stay dormant for months, only coming to life when it rains.

Adaptation for Reproduction

Structural adaptation:

- Brightly colored flowers with nectar attract pollinators such as birds, bees and insects.
- sweet fruit attracts animals that spread seeds far away.
- Some seeds are shaped to catch the wind.

Behavioral adaptation:

- Plants drop seeds to grow new offspring.

Adaptation for Defense

Structural adaptation:

- Spines and thorns protect plants from predators.

Plant Adaptation for Different Biomes

Desert Adaptation:

- Small leaves or vines on desert plants conserve water.
- Thick waxy skin holds in water.
- Roots near the soils surface soak up rain water quickly before it evaporates.

Grassland Adaptation:

- Deep roots help plants survive prairie fires.
- Narrow leaves lose less water than broad leaves.
- Flexible structure.

Tundra Adaptations:

- Small Plants grow close to the ground for warmth.
- Dark colored flowers absorb heat from the sun.
- Fuzzy stems provide protection from wind.

Temperate Forest Adaptation:

- Thick bark protect trees and dropping leaves in winter conserves water and nutrient during cold winters.

Water Adaptation:

- Flexible stems move with water currents.
- Floating seeds spread off springs.