

Name: _____

Animals and Fire Matching Game

Animals around the world live in places with fire. You are going to play a game to learn about how some of these animals are **adapted** to fire.

Instructions:

- Find a partner.
- Lay out the Animal Fire Adaptation cards, face up.
- Animals have different **adaptations** and **behaviors** that help them survive fires, especially in regions that regularly burn.
- Try to match the animals with their adaptations.
- Choose your favorite pair and draw it below.
- Then, use the cards to play a game of memory with your partner.



This is my favorite fire adapted animal.

It is my favorite because _____



Name: _____

My Fire Adapted Discovery

You were out for a hike and just discovered a new species of plant or animal. Congratulations!

Your plant or animal has an amazing superpower. It can survive fires!

Describe the adaptations of your plant or animal that allow it to survive fires.

What is habitat where your plant or animal lives? Choose one below or write in your own.

Desert Forest Grassland Beach _____

Draw your plant or animal below or on another page. Label your drawing with the adaptations that help it survive.

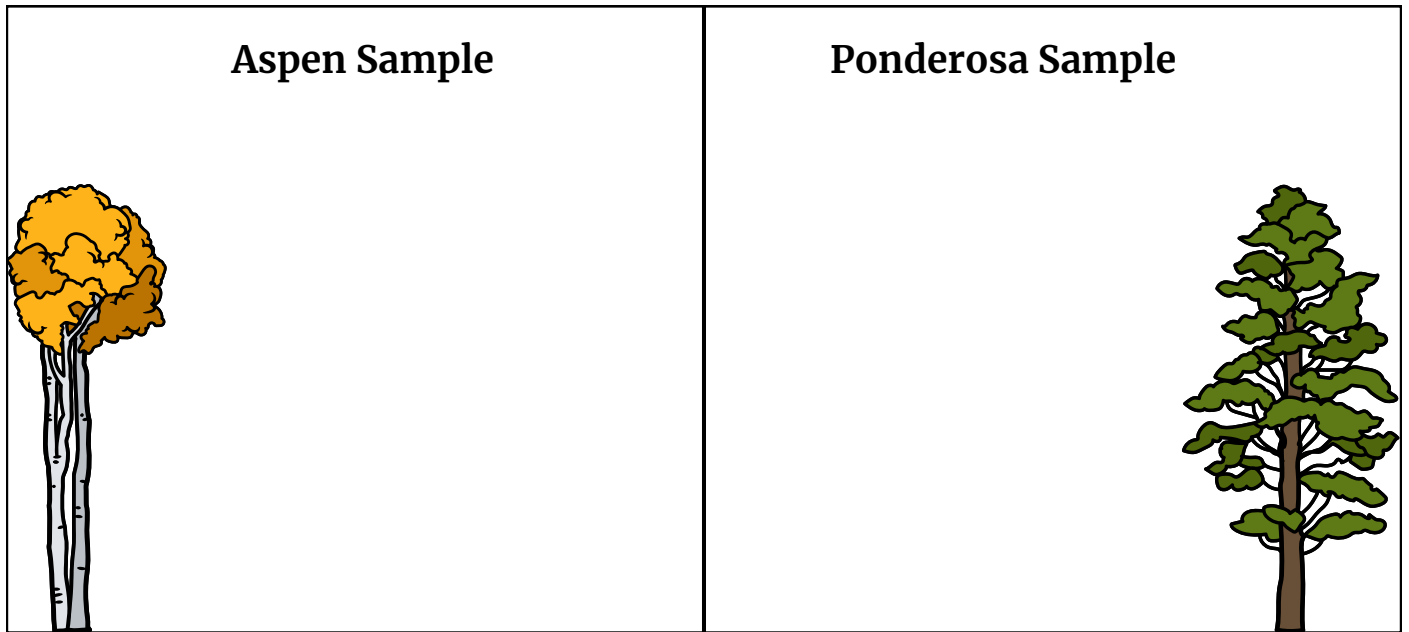
If you discover a new plant or animal, you get to name it! The name of the plant or animal I discovered is: _____

Name: _____

Bark as an Insulator

Some tree trunks are able to survive fire and others are not. One of the **adaptations** that some trees have developed is different types of bark. Today you are going to compare and contrast the bark from ponderosa pines with aspen bark.

Look at the aspen sample and the ponderosa pine sample. What do you notice? Draw and make notes below.



Which tree trunk do you think is better adapted to surviving a fire? What do you see that makes you say that?

You are going to test each trees' bark to learn which is a better insulator. Measure the thickness of the aspen bark and the ponderosa bark.

- Aspen bark thickness: _____
- Ponderosa bark thickness: _____

Instructions:

- Use the paper provided to create a model of each type of bark to recreate the thickness of each by using layers of paper.
- Now it is time to experiment!
- Have one person hold the aspen “bark” model. Please wear the protective gloves to keep your hands safe.
- A second person should point the hair drier at the “bark” for one minute.
- A third person should take a temperature reading on the inside of the “bark” at the end of the minute. Record your results below.
- Repeat with the ponderosa “bark” model.

Record the “bark” temperatures:

- Temperature inside aspen bark model: _____
- Temperature inside ponderosa bark model: _____

What does this tell you about how well the trunks of ponderosa and aspen trees would survive a wildland fire?

Aspen: _____

Ponderosa: _____

A little more information about aspen trees: Although the trunks of aspen are easily killed in a wildland fire, the roots of the tree are protected by soil. After a fire that destroys the trunks of trees, the roots quickly resprout and grow new trees. These root systems can cover acres of land. There is more than one way for plants to survive!