

Activity 7 Lab: Identifying Predators and Prey

Objective: Investigate characteristics of various animals to identify adaptations that help them survive in their roles as predators or prey.

Materials:

"Ecology and the Environment" book

images of different organisms (16)

Procedures:

1. Examine the images of animals provided. With your partner sort the animals into groups depending on whether you think they act as predators, prey, or both. Write down what reasoning you used to sort the animals into groups.

2. Study each image and identify the physical characteristics of the animal shown that help it either capture prey (if it is a predator) or evade predators (if it is a prey animal). Keep in mind some may be both. Make a table to summarize your identifications for each image. Be sure your table includes everything you have identified for each animal. Make your table in the space below.

3. What similarities or differences do you notice about the predators?

4. What similarities or differences do you notice about the prey?

5. Create a diagram to summarize and compare the characteristics of predators and prey. Create your diagram in the space below.