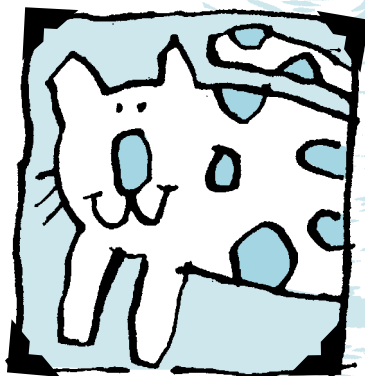


Field Notebook for kids in grades 3-8

# SHUTTERBUGS ON

# SAFARI



Take a picture of  
your Shutterbugs.

Paste photo here and  
write your names on the cover.

# Shutterbug Chaperones

**The children with you are your responsibility.  
No climbing, picking plants, or yelling, please.**

**Please read aloud:**

There are no right or wrong answers today. We will choose as a group where to take our pictures.

We will be taking pictures of animal adaptations. Does anyone know what an adaptation is? An adaptation is a characteristic of an animal or plant that allows it to survive in its environment. Adaptations help protect, defend, and camouflage an animal as it eats, sleeps, and lives.

**If students are sharing a camera:**

We will take turns using the camera.  
Everyone will take at least one picture.

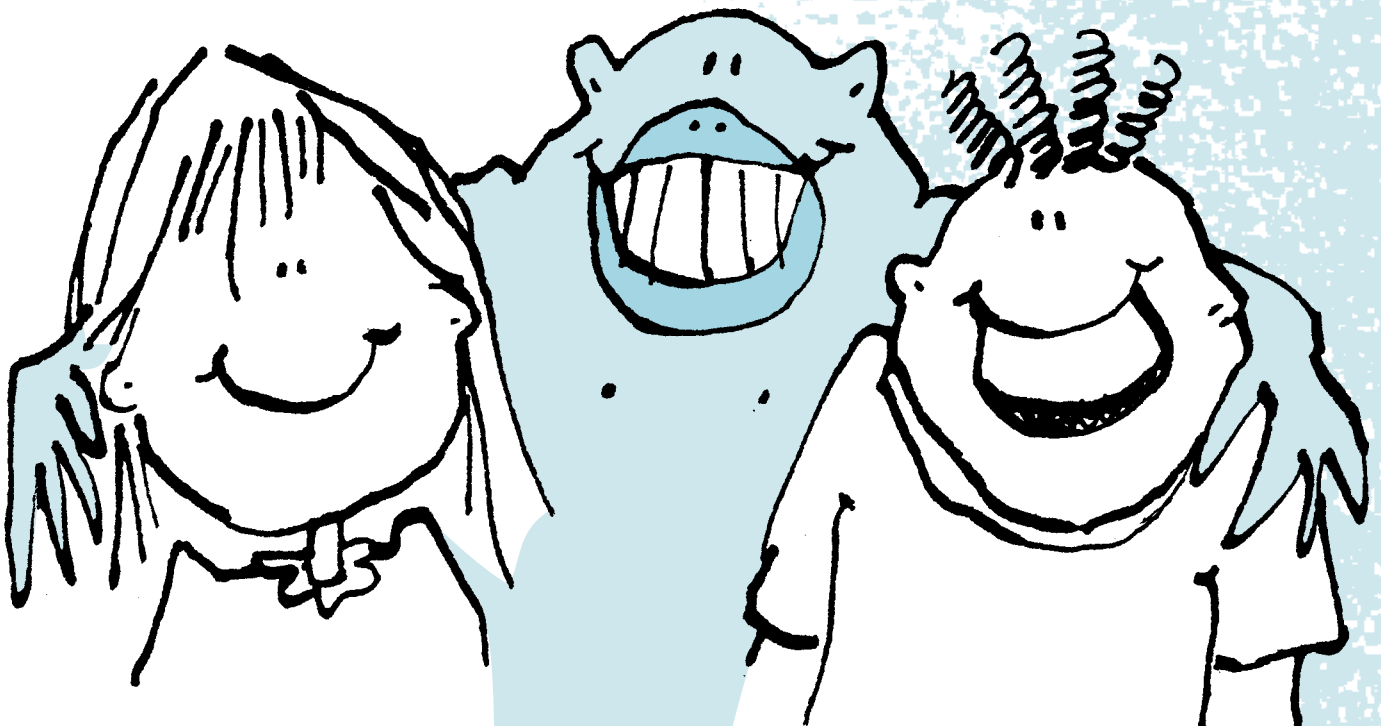
**For the best pictures:**

**Hold camera steady.**

**Hold the camera by the sides so your fingers don't cover the lens.**

**Take pictures outside in bright sun if it doesn't have a flash.**

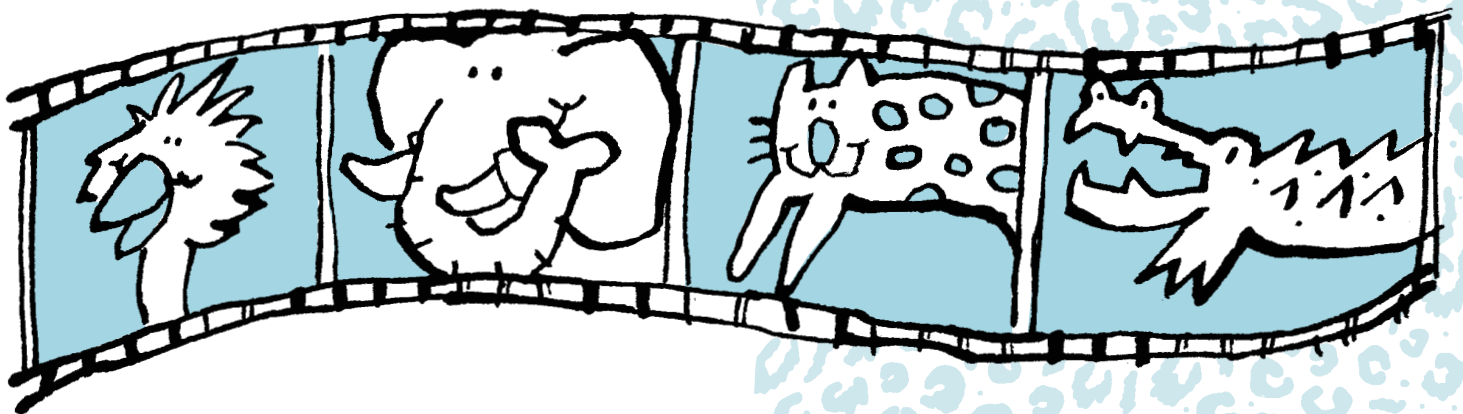
**Pictures of large animals come out best.**



# Photo Checklist

Since photos may be taken in any order, number them as you take them. This will help you identify them after they are developed.

| Photo Checklist:            | # of Photo | Animal name | Photographer's name |
|-----------------------------|------------|-------------|---------------------|
| skin, scales, or fur        | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| feet, paws, hands, claws    | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| interesting face            | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| noticeable nose             | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| horns or antlers            | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| active during day (diurnal) | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| camouflage markings         | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| plant adaptation            | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| tail                        | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| prehensile (able-to-grasp)  | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| body part                   | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| human adaptations           | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| group photo                 | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| other: _____                | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| other: _____                | _____      | _____       | _____               |
| other: _____                | _____      | _____       | _____               |



# Crazy Coverings: Skin, Scales, & Fur

Animals have coverings on their bodies to help protect them and keep them warm or cool.

Take turns writing words to describe this animal's covering.

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List three ways the covering helps the animal to live:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Take a picture of an animal whose covering helps

1. defend it against predators OR
2. keeps it warm or cool.

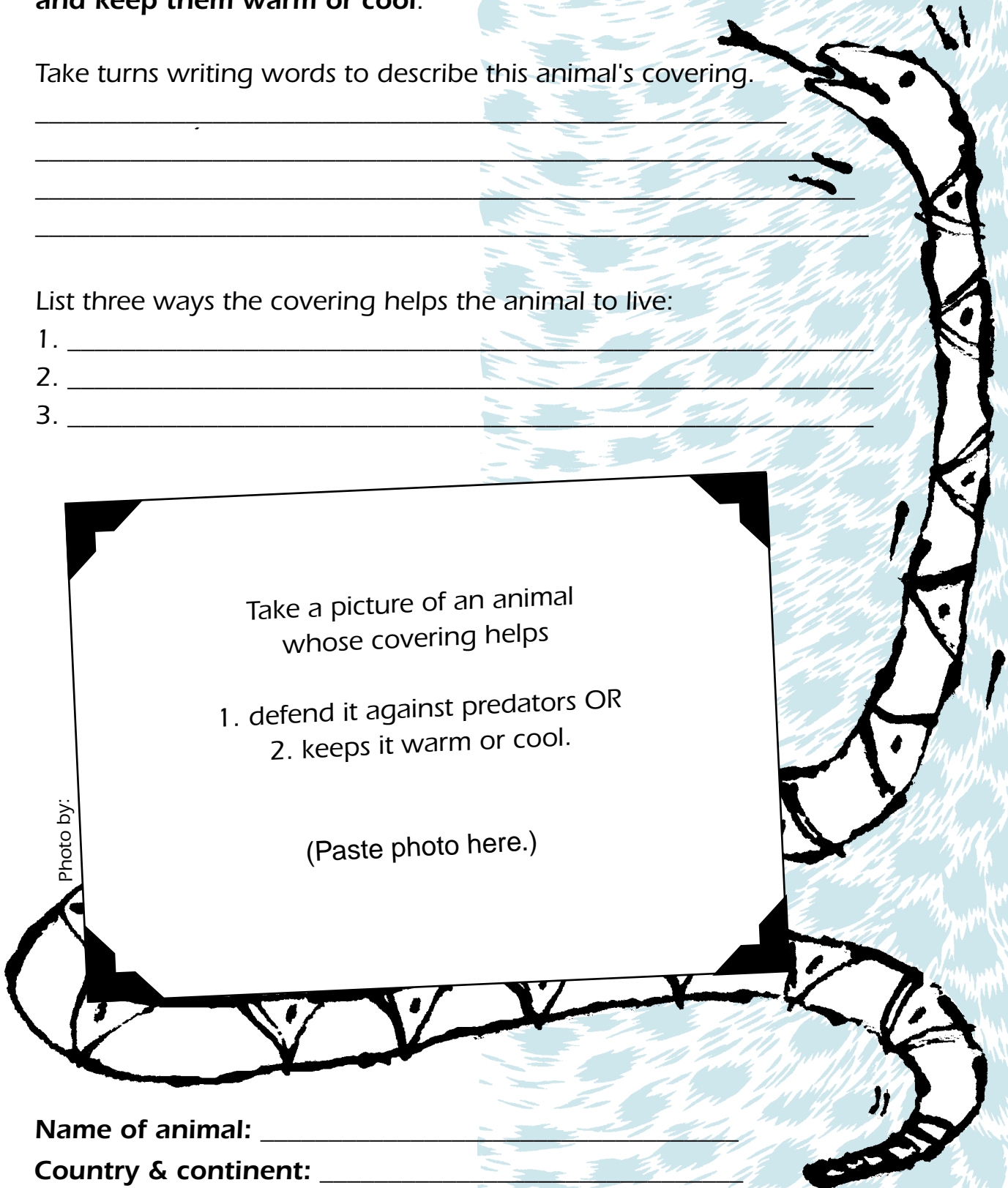
(Paste photo here.)

Photo by:

Name of animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Country & continent: \_\_\_\_\_

Skin, scales, or fur? (Circle one.)



# Feet, Paws, Hands & Claws

Animals' feet and hands give you clues about where they live, what they eat, and how they get around.

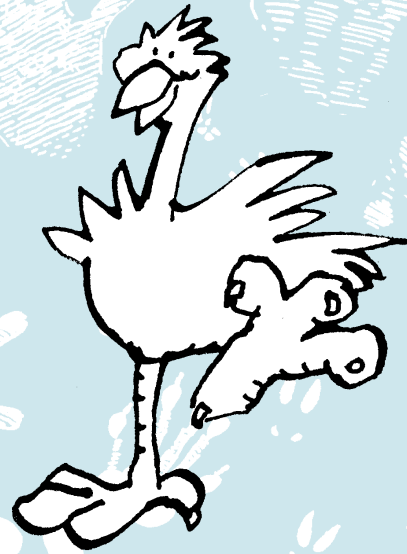
Our animal's feet and hands help it to live in its habitat by:

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Do you have an adaptation on your body that would help you live in this animal's habitat? What is it?

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**Our animal has (circle all that apply):**

Hooves ■ Paws ■ Feet ■ Hands  
Claws ■ Toes ■ Webbing ■ Flippers

**Our animal is from the (circle one):**

Rain Forest ■ Savannah ■ Desert  
Tundra (Arctic) ■ Ocean ■ Forest

(Paste photo here.)

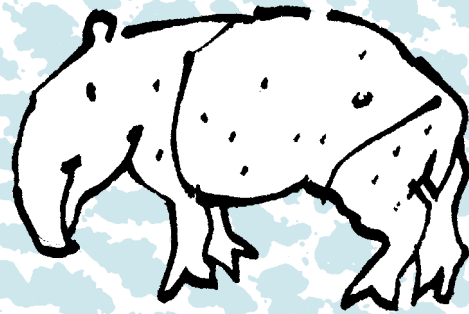
Photo by:

Name of animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Country & continent: \_\_\_\_\_

# Let's face It!

Select an animal with an interesting face and look at its tongue, teeth, eyes, ears, and nose.



Write something you've learned about this animal by looking at its face.

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What is the one adaptation in this animal's face that most stands out? How does the adaptation help this animal?

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Take a photo of an animal with an interesting face.

(Paste photo here.)

**Optional:**

Have your Shutterbugs make faces like this animal and take a picture for your photo collage.

Photo by:

Name of animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Country & continent: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Nose Knows

Animals use their noses to smell food, sense danger, and find mates.

Sniff the air. What scents do you smell?

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What are your favorite food smells? Why?

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How does your sense of smell help you?

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Take a photo of an animal with a noticeable nose.

How does this animal use its nose?

(Paste photo here.)

Photo by:

Name of animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Country & continent: \_\_\_\_\_

# Horning In

**Antlers** are branching growths on a deer's head which are made of bone-like material and are shed every year. The only type of female deer that have antlers are reindeer.

**Horns** are made of keratin, the same material as your fingernails. Horns are not shed. (The North American pronghorn antelope is the only animal which sheds its horns each year.) Both males and females can have horns.

Name some animals that have horns.

Name some animals that have antlers.

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Observe an animal that has horns or antlers. How do you think having horns or antlers helps this animal in its environment?

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Take a photo of an animal with horns and antlers.



(Paste photo here.)

**Optional:**

Have your Shutterbugs pretend they have antlers or horns and capture them on film for your photo collage.

Photo by:

**Name of animal:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Country & continent:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Horns or antlers?** (Circle one.)



# Night & Day



Animals have adapted their activity to their habitat, too. Some are diurnal (die-UR-nall), or active mainly during the day. But many more, eight out of ten, are nocturnal (nock-TUR-nall), active mainly at night.

List reasons why an animal might be better off active during the day.

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List reasons why an animal might be better off active at night.

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Are humans nocturnal or diurnal? (Circle one.)

Find an animal that seems to be very active during the day for the photo.

What adaptations help it be active during the day?

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(Paste photo here.)

Photo by:

Name of animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Country & continent: \_\_\_\_\_

# Chameleons & Other Creatures of Camouflage

**Camouflage** (CAM-eh-flahzh) is an adaptation of the animal's covering so that it blends in to its natural surroundings. Stripes, spots, and other patterns are camouflage. Some animals, like chameleons, are able to change their skin color to match their surroundings!



Find an animal for the next photo that is a camouflage expert. Describe what it looks like.

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Describe what the animal's environment looks like, too.

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Photograph an animal that  
is a camouflage expert.

(Paste photo here.)

Photo by:

Name of animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Country & continent: \_\_\_\_\_

# Plants Have Adaptations, Too!

Plants also develop adaptations over time that help them survive in their environment.

Choose a plant to photograph. Take turns writing words to describe the plant. What stands out? What animals or insects do you think would be attracted to this plant? Why?

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Name one way this plant has adapted to its native habitat.

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**What kind of habitat do you think this plant comes from? (Circle one.)**

**Rain Forest** - hot and wet, very rainy

**Savannah (grassland)** - dry and windy, not enough rain to grow big trees

**Desert** - hot and extremely dry

**Tundra (arctic)** - dry and very cold, frozen most of the year

**Ocean** - wet

**Forest** - enough rain to grow large trees, gets fairly hot and fairly cold

(Paste photo here.)

Photo by:

Name of animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Country & continent: \_\_\_\_\_

# Telling Tales

Select an animal with a tail for the next picture. Watch the way this animal uses its tail for 3-5 minutes.

Which body parts do people use for these same activities?

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**(Finish later if short on time.)**

Think of an animal whose tail:

|                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| is able to grip _____   | helps with swimming _____ |
| helps with flying _____ | helps defend it _____     |
| steers _____            | helps it balance _____    |
| swats flies _____       | helps it feel _____       |
| warns others _____      | is pretty _____           |

**Circle all the ways this animal uses its tail:**

Propulsion ■ Gripping ■ Defense  
Steering ■ Balance ■ Fly swatting ■ Feeling  
Warning ■ Ornamentation

(Paste photo here.)

Photo by:

Name of animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Country & continent: \_\_\_\_\_

# Hang In There!

Many animals have body parts that are prehensile (pre-HEN-sull) - parts that can grab and hold.

What part of your animal's body is prehensile?

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Name an animal with a prehensile:

tail \_\_\_\_\_ [MONKEY]

foot \_\_\_\_\_ [GORILLA]

hand \_\_\_\_\_ [HUMAN]

tongue \_\_\_\_\_ [GIRAFFE]

body \_\_\_\_\_ [SNAKE]

lip \_\_\_\_\_ [RHINO]

nose \_\_\_\_\_ [ELEPHANT]

What part of your body is prehensile?

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Find an animal with a prehensile  
body part for this picture.

(Paste photo here.)

Photo by:

Name of animal: \_\_\_\_\_

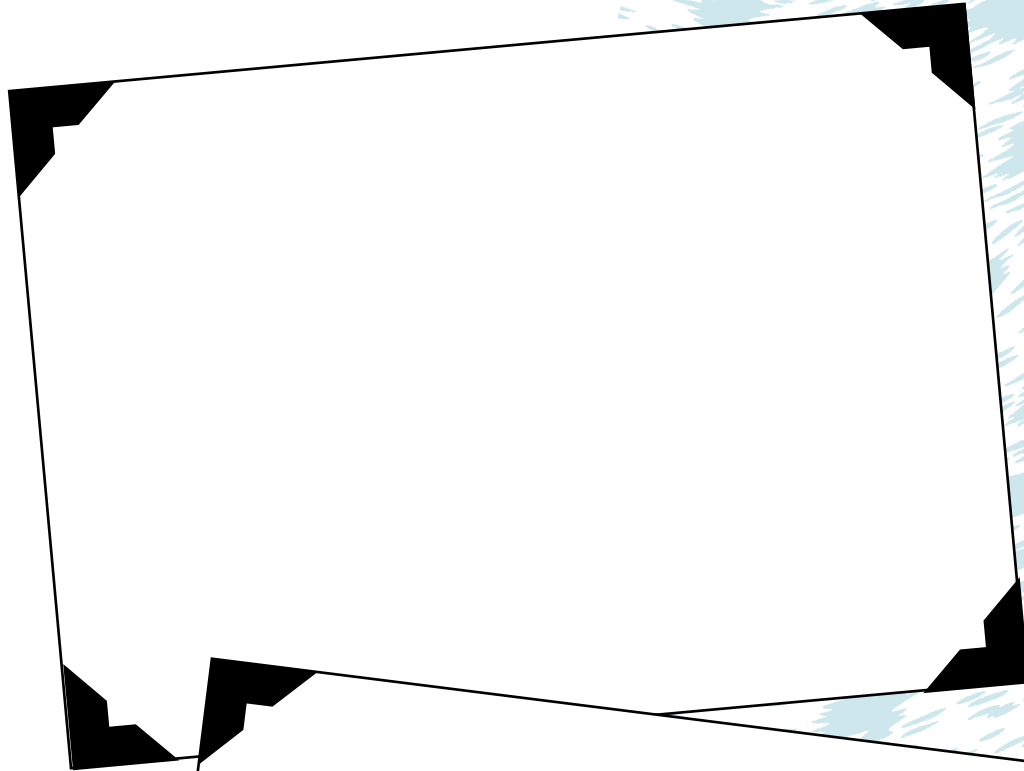
Country & continent: \_\_\_\_\_

# Human Adaptations Collage

Take any remaining photos of your Shutterbugs showing off their adaptations.

**Some ideas are:**

hands for grasping and picking up things, nose for smelling, ears for hearing, eyes for seeing.



Paste your photos here,  
or make a large collage on a  
poster board with all the photos.  
Label the adaptations.

Photo by:

# Finishing Your Field Guide

Have your film developed into 3-1/2" x 5" prints. Ordering double prints provides extra photos to share or to use for the extended activities listed below. Use double-stick tape or glue to paste the photos on each page. When you are finished with the field guides, pages may be cut out to give to each person in that group.

## Extended Activities:

### **Pet Observations**

Describe the covering of a pet you (or a friend) have at home. How does the covering help the pet? What special care, if any, does the pet's covering need? Watch a pet's tail. How many different ways is it used? List the pet's other adaptations. How are the adaptations used?

### **Camouflage Animals Or Insects**

Make a background collage on paper, then make an animal that matches the background and "disappears."

Create a field guide using pictures that you take on your own or collect from magazines and newspapers. Describe the plant or animal adaptations on each page.

Design make-believe animals. Label the adaptations, and write stories about how your animal's adaptations help it survive in its make-believe habitat.

### **Use double photos or photocopies for:**

adaptations bingo cards  
animal "concentration" game  
habitat murals  
math activities like classifying, sets, sorting  
geography