

STEM Challenge: Grade 8



8-LS1-4 – *Use arguments, based on empirical evidence and scientific reasoning, to support an explanation for how characteristic animal behaviors and specialized plant structures affect the probability of successful reproduction of animals and plants respectively.*

Do you see any examples of variation between sexes? How does one sex attract the other in certain species?

8-LS3-2 – *Develop and use a model to describe why asexual reproduction results in offspring with identical genetic information and sexual reproduction results in offspring with genetic variation.*

Find examples of various forms or types of reproduction and birth in different animals. Examples to observe include sharks or snakes.

8-LS4-4 – *Construct an explanation based on evidence that describes how genetic variations of traits in a population increase some individual's probability of surviving and reproducing in a specific environment.*

Select an animal and discuss the adaptations that you think would be passed down to their offspring and why those adaptations would be helpful.

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