SHAGGY BEASTS WORKSHEET

SOME FUN FACTS

★ There are 10 main types of land habitats (mountain, coniferous forest, deciduous forest, temperate grassland, Mediterranean, tundra, hot desert, tropical rainforest, polar ice, and savanna.)

★ CLIMATE is best described as the long-term pattern of weather in a particular area.

★ HABITAT is best described as he natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism.

★ ADAPTATION is best described as the process of change by which an organism or species becomes better suited to its environment.

★ There are no "wild" alpacas. Alpacas are domesticated versions of the vicuña, a South American camelid that lives high in the Andes Mountain region.

★ Alpacas are adaptable to different environments, but typically found in temperate conditions of mountainous ranges with high altitudes.

★ Alpaca fibre (fleece) does not retain water and is up to three times warmer than a sheep's wool.

★ Wild yak is the highest-dwelling mammal in the world, living at altitudes of 20,000 feet.

★ 90 % of all known yaks can be found in the Tibetan Plateau in the Himalayas.

★ Wild yak shaggy coats can protect them in temperatures as low as -40°C

★ Highland cattle are the oldest breed of cattle in the world – appearing in the 6th century AD.

★ Highland cattle live in wet and mountainous grasslands and are native to Scotland.

ACTIVITY 1

Name an animal from each of the four habitats.
(Discuss what adaptations they have to suit their climates.)

Can some of the fun facts be removed as quite copy heavy on this page?

1. Hot desert
....

2. Mountain
....

3. Tropical rainforest
....

4. Temperate grassland
....

HOBBLEDOWN HEATH

ACTIVITY 2

Choose which paragraph describes CLIMATE best

- [ ] **A** – The description of the long-term pattern of weather in a particular area.
- [ ] **B** – Clothing worn to keep oneself warm.
- [ ] **C** – Beaches and Forests.

Choose which describes HABITAT best

- [ ] **A** – School yards.
- [ ] **B** – The natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism.
- [ ] **C** – Countries with large cities.

Choose which describes ADAPTATION best

- [ ] **A** – Dressing up for Halloween.
- [ ] **B** – Buying clothes for every season.
- [ ] **C** – The process of change by which an organism or species becomes better suited to its environment.

ACTIVITY 3

Identify which climate **(warm / cold)** these animals are more suited for based on their adaptations:

Meerkat (Dark patches of fur around their eyes reduces the glare from harsh sunlight)

....

Camel (Thick fur on top to provide shade and thin fur elsewhere to allow heat loss)

....

Polar bear (Thick fur and layers of fat to provide insulation)

....

Highland cattle (Long, shaggy coat made up of two layers to protect from rain and snow)

....

EXPERIMENT TIME!

Experiment with your coat and clothing items you may have with you (hat, gloves, scarves etc.).

Put them on and take them off. Are you warmer or colder? Can animals "take off their coats" to adapt to climate changes? How?

HOBBLEDOWN HEATH