

Exploring Habitats with Nova the Owl

Learning objective: To identify and describe how different animals are suited to their environment and how they depend on their habitat.

Read the passage about Nova's woodland home. Use the word bank to help you answer the questions below. Think carefully about how each animal survives in its specific habitat.

Nova the barn owl lives in a hollow oak tree in a quiet woodland. This is her habitat, where she finds everything she needs to survive: shelter from the rain, safety for her nest, and plenty of prey to hunt at night. In the same wood, Bea the honeybee visits colourful wildflowers to collect nectar. If the environment changed—for example, if the trees were cut down—Nova and Bea would struggle to find food or a safe place to live. Every living thing in the woodland is connected, relying on the plants and other animals to thrive.

Word bank: adaptation · environment · shelter · predator · camouflage · food chain · ecosystem

1. Identify two things Nova the owl needs from her habitat to survive. (2 marks)

2. Explain why it is important for an animal to be suited to its environment. (2 marks)

3. What might happen to Bea the honeybee if the flowers in her habitat disappeared? Use the word 'food' in your answer. (2 marks)

4. Define the term 'habitat' in your own words. (2 marks)

5. Choose an animal that lives in a cold habitat, such as a polar bear. How does its body help it survive the freezing temperature? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a woodland habitat. Include Nova the owl in her tree and Bea the bee near a flower. Label two features that help these animals survive.



Extension challenge: Research a 'threatened' habitat, such as a rainforest or a coral reef. Write three sentences explaining one reason why that habitat is changing and how it affects the animals living there.