

Plant Adaptation and Bushfires **Answers**

7. Write down three words that you have learnt from this text and explain their meaning.

a, b and c. Answers will vary

8. If you could change your body to better adapt to your environment, what would you change?

Answers will vary

9. Imagine being in a rainforest, look around you at the different types of plants. Can you think of ways in which rainforest plants have adapted to their environment?

Examples may include but are not limited to:

- a. Large leaves to increase exposure to sunlight.**
- b. Growing very tall to reach sunlight.**
- c. Having shallow roots, so they don't get water-logged.**
- d. Vines growing high into the canopy towards the sunlight.**

Plant Adaptation and Bushfires Answers

1. Complete the following sentences:

- a. Some Australian plants need **smoke** to germinate their seeds.
- b. Some Australian plants have developed a thick layer of **bark** to protect them from bushfires.
- c. Some Australian plants grow very **tall** to keep the important parts of the tree away from the flames of bushfires.
- d. Some Australian plants regrow from roots, bulbs or **rhizomes** that are protected underground.
- e. Some Australian plants flower best after a **bushfire**.

2. What is germination?

Germination is the first process of a seed becoming a plant, it's when the roots begin to grow.

3. How does the ash from the fire help with germination?

The ash provides nutrients that helps to create a perfect environment for germination.

4. Explain the meaning of Sclerophyll.

The word used to describe plants that are adapted for survival in extreme conditions.

5. What word describes the process of change that occurs over time to help a plant or animal survive in its environment?

Adaptation

6. Explain five ways in which Australian plants have adapted to survive bushfires.

1: Germination. Seeds germinate after exposure to smoke and/or heat.

2: Bark. A thick layer of bark grows to protect the tree trunk.

3: Height. Trees grow tall so that the important parts of the tree stay up high out of the fire.

4: Regrowth. Plants regrow and grow new shoots after fire.

5: Flowers. Some plants only flower after a bushfire.

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10. In the box below, draw one of the adaptations described in the text.

Drawings will vary