

Garden Adaptations

Let's go on a scavenger hunt! How many of these plants can you find in the Desert Garden?



Mexican Lime Cactus



Fun Fact:

I have beautiful red-orange flowers and fruit that taste like lime with large spines to protect me.

Silver Torch Cactus



Fun Fact:

I live high up in the mountains of Argentina and Bolivia with fine hair and spines shading me so I don't lose water.

Mexican Fan Palm



Fun Fact:

I can be 70 to 100 feet tall with shallow roots to absorb water as soon as it rains.

Hummel's Sunset Jade Tree



Fun Fact:

The beautiful orange, gold, and green leaves are thick and waxy to store water through long droughts.

Shaw's Agave



Fun Fact:

The circle shape with leaves pointing to its center help direct water to the roots of this rare and endangered native California plant.

California Poppy



Fun Fact:

The official state flower of California has small leaves to help it lose less water in the hot sun.

Garden Adaptations

What makes these plants similar and why are they important?

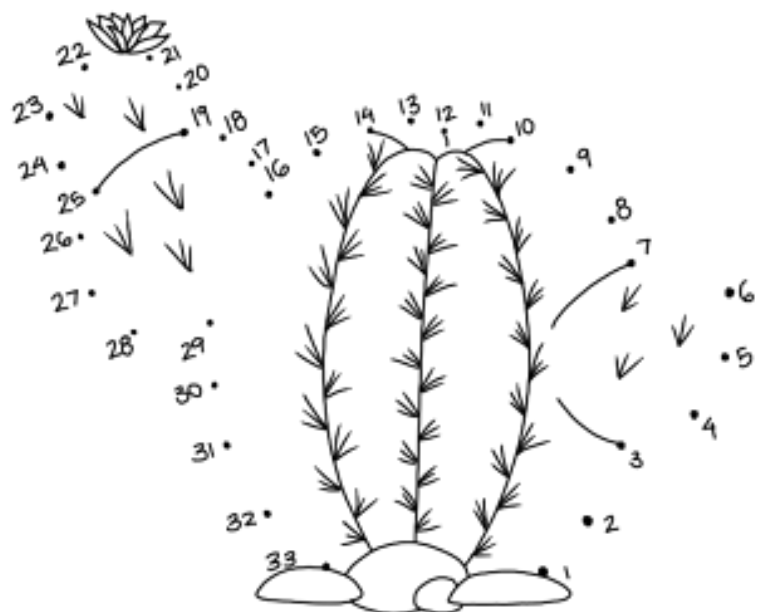
- Plants and animals wouldn't be able to survive in such different habitats if they didn't have adaptations. Each of the plants in this scavenger hunt has an adaptation, which is featured in the fun fact!
- Palms are able to take water out of their fruit and seeds during times of extreme drought.
- Desert plants will only flower and fruit after major rain events.
- The iconic palm trees you see lining the streets of Los Angeles are the Mexican Fan Palms.



Connect the Dots!

After you connect the dots, can you identify this plant and 4 of its adaptations?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.



Answers: Type of plant: Barrel cactus.
 Adaptations: 1) Thorns 2) Thick waxy exterior
 3) Ploated to expand to hold more water 4) Only flowers after rain