

ADAPTATIONS

Adaptation: _____

Three types: _____

Behavioral Adaptations:

Types:

Examples:

Physical Adaptations:

Types:

Examples:

Chemical Adaptations:

Types:

Examples:

Adaptations of the Human Hand

Humans, too, are adapted for the things they do. One of our adaptations is our hand. Humans, as well as monkeys, gorillas, and other primates, have a hand that can grasp objects. In this lab exercise, you will perform several common actions. Then you will change your hand so it resembles that of a non-primate animal. You will determine whether or not you can successfully perform the same actions. This will demonstrate how the human hand is adapted for the actions it performs. You will work with a partner to do this exercise.

PROCEDURE:

1. Do each of the actions listed in the data table. Have your partner time how long it takes you to complete each one. Record your times in your data table (or have your partner help you).
2. As directed, have your partner tightly tape each of your thumbs to the palm of your hand.
3. After your thumbs are securely taped, try each of the activities listed in the data table again. Time each activity as you did before and record the time in the data chart. If an activity is not done in two minutes, record the word "unsuccessful".

DATA: Time in seconds to perform the action with

ACTION	THUMBS FREE	THUMBS TAPED
Tie a knot in a string		
Remove and replace shoe		
Unscrew bottle cap		
Hold open a clothespin for 5 sec.		
Write your name on this page.		
Cut a piece of paper in half with scissors		