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Objectives

- Students will identify the things plants and animals need to survive.
- Students will review pictures of animals and plants together and label the characteristics that are similar between them.
- Students will create a venn diagram to compare and contrast the different traits.
- Students will take what they have learned and apply it by creating their own animal story that features adaptations.

Standards

- **1-LS1-1.** Use materials to design a solution to a human problem by mimicking how plants and/or animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs.
- **1-LS3-1.** Make observations to construct an evidence-based account that some young plants and animals are similar to, but not exactly like, their parents.

Materials Needed

- SMART Notebook
- SMART Learning Suite Online
- Venn diagrams
- Pen / Paper (*Planning purposes*)

Procedure

1. The teacher will begin with a “Shout It Out” activity for students to identify the different traits plants and animals need to survive.
2. Once students understand the basic needs of life, they will create and label a venn diagram. One side for plants and the other side for animals. (The teacher could make this an individual activity or a group activity.)
3. Students will then look at a series of pictures and use the Venn diagrams to write down similarities and differences of the characteristics of each plant and animal.

Extension Activity

The teacher will divide the class into teams to talk about the story of the "Three Little Pigs" and how their behaviors (building different types of houses) affected their survival. The teams of students will then create a short story that features adaptations.

Examples students can choose from:

- Flight
- Migration
- Artificial bigness
- Camouflage
- Hibernation
- Surviving extreme temperatures (resource conservation)