

Who Am I?

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How do I
manage to
survive
in the
wild?



I am a Porcupine!

- I have 20,000 long, pointy quills on my back.
- I do not throw quills, but slap my enemies with them when attacked.
- I have scaly feet to climb trees.
- When I'm around trees or bushes my fur helps me camouflage.
- I make my cave home in rock or under roots.

Every living thing in an ecosystem must adapt its body and behavior to survive and contribute to the function of its environment. Ecosystems are full of niches, or jobs that animals and plants adapt to fill.

Porcupines use their scaly feet to climb trees and eat bark. Sometimes they kill the trees. This is good because it makes habitat for other species. Porcupines are slow-moving herbivores, their bodies have adapted by growing quills for protection against predators.

Can you think of adaptations that would be helpful in Alta?