

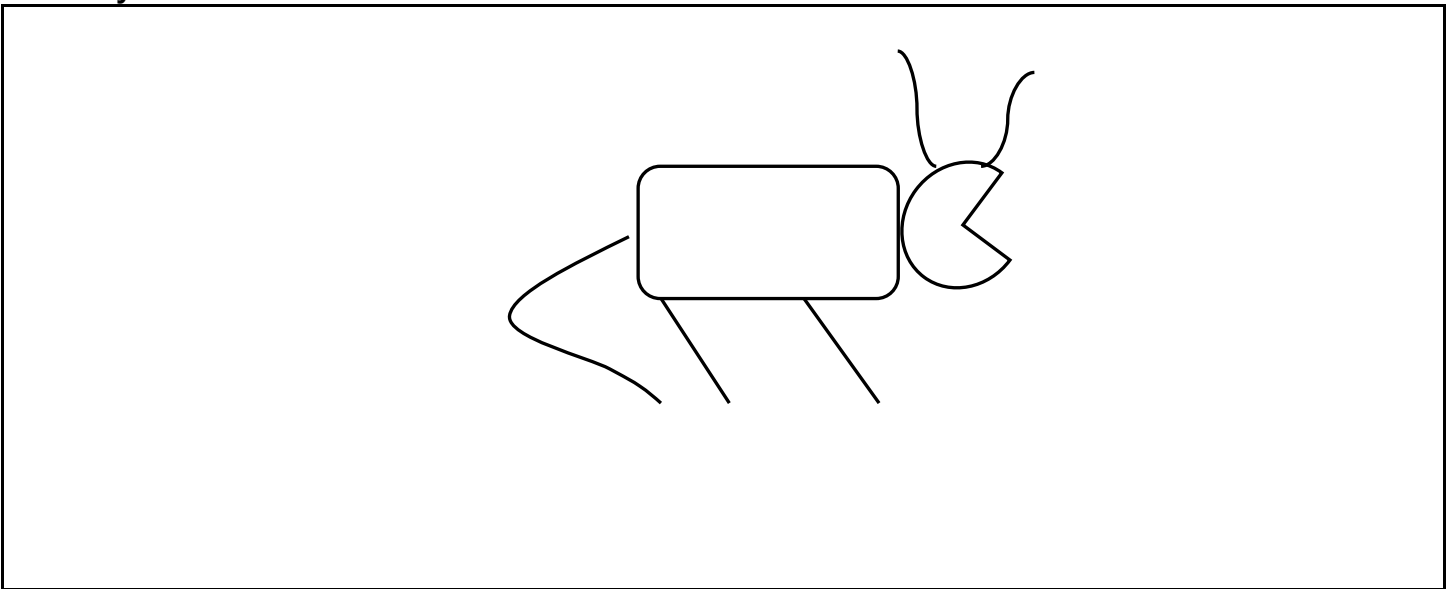
Create-A-Creature

The responses in red are examples of what the students can put for their answers. Students' answers can vary but should explain how the body parts of the animal(s) help them survive in the sand or the other homes mentioned in this activity.

Create your own animal that could survive in the sand at the beach. How does it move in the sand? Does it dig? How does it protect itself from waves and predators? Does it blend in with the sand?



Draw your animal in the box:



Write about your animal. What is the name of your animal? Explain how its body parts help it survive in the sand.

My new sand animal is called the blind sand mulcher. It is blind because it does not have eyes. It digs really well with its antennae, legs and tail. It can also dig with its mouth and eats the materials, nutrients in the sand. It stays deep in the sand to hide from predators like birds, and likes wet sand a lot better than dry sand. The blind sand mulcher likes wet sand because it uses gills inside its body get oxygen from the water.

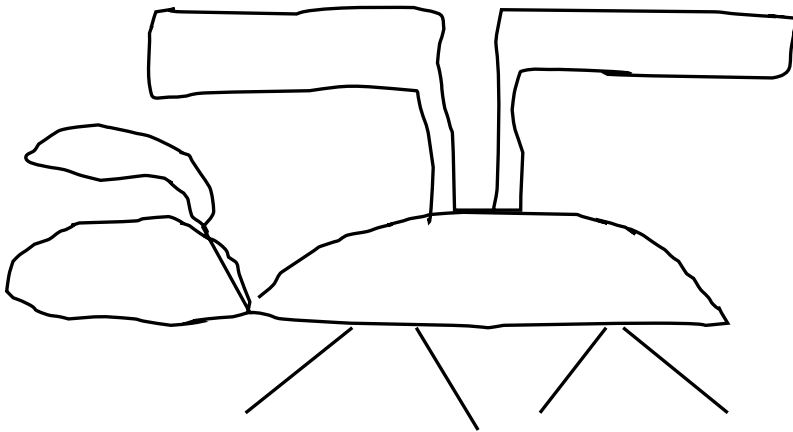
Could your animal live in a forest? Why or why not?

No, the blind sand mulcher could not live in a forest because my animal cannot dig into the dirt. It needs to live in soft, wet sand so that it can dig down below and it eats sand and other things found in sand.

Look outside, what animals do you see? What body parts do they have to help them survive? What is their home like?

I see birds! The birds, like gulls, have big wings that help them fly really well. They also have webbed feet that help the gulls swim in water. The gull's home is outside near the water. They live at the beach sometimes, so their webbed feet help them walk on the sand and swim in the water. Other times, the gulls use their strong beaks to break into lunch bags, backpacks and other packets of food the gulls find on the beach or at parks.

Create a new creature that would need to survive hot, dry and sandy home like a desert. How is the new creature similar and different to your creature that lives at the cooler, wet and sandy beach?



This is a desert sand beetle. It can dig in sand like my other creature, but it can also fly away if the sand is too hot on top and down below. The wings can also help it dig or provide it shade. This desert sand beetle does not have gills to breathe, it uses lungs to breathe air.