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# Shell, Beak, Tusk: Shared Traits and the Wonders of Adaptation

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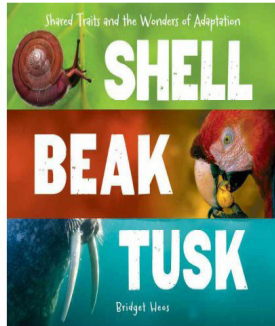
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## Book Review

# Shell, Beak, Tusk: Shared Traits and the Wonders of Adaptation

In a world of predators and prey, animals have adapted to survive. Animals have specific traits to help them eat, while other traits protect them from being eaten. This vivid picture book explores convergent evolution where similar traits are seen in unrelated animals. Each informative page compares animals from different environments who share a helpful trait such as spines, shells, or tall ears. Animals use these survival traits in parallel ways even though they are distinct species. When a trait works, it works in multiple circumstances!

This bright and beautiful picture book will delight animal lovers and scientists alike. Bridget Heos artfully explains the concept of convergent evolution for all to understand. Rich photographs are nicely coupled with simple explanations and examples that are engaging and enlightening. The author describes the purposes of each trait and highlights other interesting facts about these adaptive animals. It includes a bibliography useful for further research and a glossary of animals and traits. The book ends with an explanation that oftentimes new animals are named based on traits shared with known animals, such as the porcupinefish or the giraffe weevil. Can you picture the common traits?

### Author

Bridget Heos

### Illustrator

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### Reviewer

Maryn Wheeler

### Rating

Outstanding

### Level

Preschool, Primary

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### Pages

31

### Year

2017

### Publisher

Houghton Mifflin

### ISBN

9780544811669