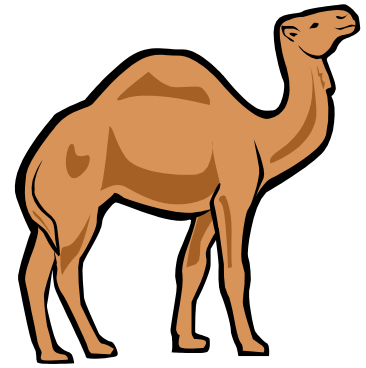


# Camel



*Read the text below.*

*Draw a picture of a camel and label it, referring to the most obvious features the camel has to help it survive in the desert. You may want to use a double page to have enough space to annotate your drawing.*

*Extension: Describe the conditions in the desert to link them to the camel's adaptation.*

Camels have a number of adaptations which help them survive in their desert environment.

- The most obvious is that camels have a hump (or two if they are bactrian camels) which stores fat, which metabolises for energy. This enables the camel to go without food and water for a long period of time. The hump does **not** store water.
- When they do access water, they can drink up to 46 litres of water in one session.
- Camels have two rows of long eyelashes to help protect them against the desert sand.
- They can close their nostrils, also for the purpose of keeping out sand.
- They also have hair lining the inside of their ears to protect their ears from the sand.
- Their legs are long and strong, and their feet are split hooves with broad pads which splay out over the desert sand for more stability, preventing them from sinking into the sand.
- Their thick, leathery knees do not get burnt by the hot sand when they kneel.
- Camels have thick fur and underwool which acts as insulation against both the hot desert days and the cold nights.
- Camels' lips are thick and leathery, which enables them to eat prickly desert plants without it hurting their mouths.
- The colour of their bodies helps them to blend into their environment.

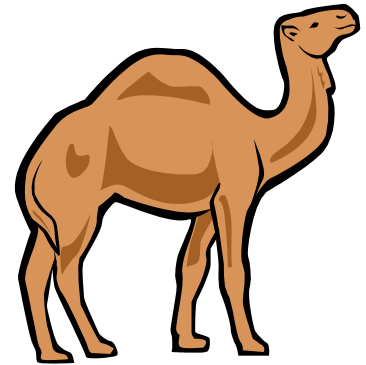
*Learn these features.*

Check that you have included everything.

## Camel

*Read the text below.*

*Draw a picture of a camel and label it, referring to the most obvious features the camel has to help it survive in the desert.*



*The adaptation and their function below have been mixed up.*

*Extension:*

- 1) Describe the conditions in the desert to link them to the camel's adaptation.*
- 2) Research: Kidneys, digestive system and blood cells have adapted too. In what way? ( → sweat, dung, urine, water intake, internal temperature)*

<b>Adaptation</b>	<b>Function</b>
two rows of long eyelashes	help it to survive long periods of time without food and water
fat stored in hump(s)	pads spread out when the camel places its feet on the ground thus creating a 'snowshoe' effect and preventing the camel from sinking into the sand and give more stability
thick leathery patches on knees	help keep them further away from hot ground
broad, flat, leathery pads at the bottom of their hooves	protect against blowing sand and the sun
nostrils can be closed	provide insulation against heat during the day and cold during the night
thick fur and underwool	keep out blowing sand during sandstorms
long strong legs	protect it from getting burnt when it kneels on the hot desert sand

