# Out of this world adaptations & futuristic GMOs



Presented by:

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### Adapting to the Environment

- Natural selection:
  Changes an organism makes over time to help make it better suited to their environment.
- adaptations— the behaviors & physical structures or characteristics of an organism that help the organism survive in their ecosystem



# 3 Basic type of Adaptations

- 1) Adaptations for getting food
- 2) Adaptations for locomotion or movement
- 3) Adaptations for protection



### **Adaptive Behaviors**

- mimicry an organism looks or acts like another organism for protection
- Whales travel in pods.
- Birds travel in flocks
- Some fish travel in schools for protection
- Animals hunting in packs
  - hunting in packs help provide a successful kill
    - Ex. Carnivores (lions, wolves)
- Animals traveling in herds for protection
  - traveling in herds helps increase survival rates. Ex. Herbivores (zebras, buffalos)
- playing dead
- migrating
- hibernation





## Design an organism with the following adaptations

- 1) Eats meat
- 2) Swims & breathes under water
- 3) Flies through the air
- 4) Keen sense of smell
- 5) Keen sense of hearing
- 6) Lives in a cold climate
- 7) Has horns or antlers for protection
- 8) Walks on land
- 9) Antennae for sensing their environment

Name your organism

## Analyzing imaginary creatures

- 1) Determine what ecosystem it would live in.
- 2) Create a 3 organism food chain. What type of consumer do you have?
- 3) Explain 2 interactions with 2 different abiotic factors.
- 4) Name 1 organism that would compete for limiting resources (What is the limiting factor?)
- 5) Name 1 predator/prey (predation) relationship.
- 6) Choose the 2 most important physical adaptations for your organism & explain their importance.
- 7) Explain the most important behavior adaptation for your organism.

#### **Genetically Modified Organisms**

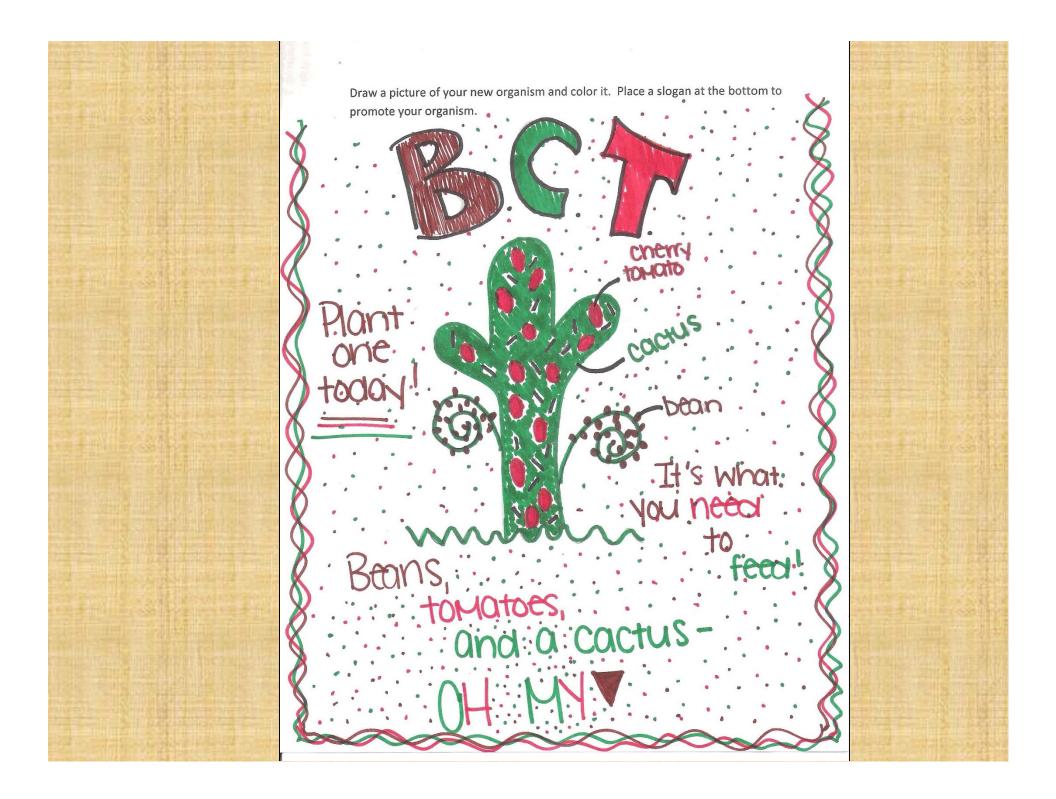
 \*Compare GMOs, or biotech crops, to smart phones. Think of the phone as the plant's DNA and the genes as an app.
 Even after adding many different apps, you still have a phone.

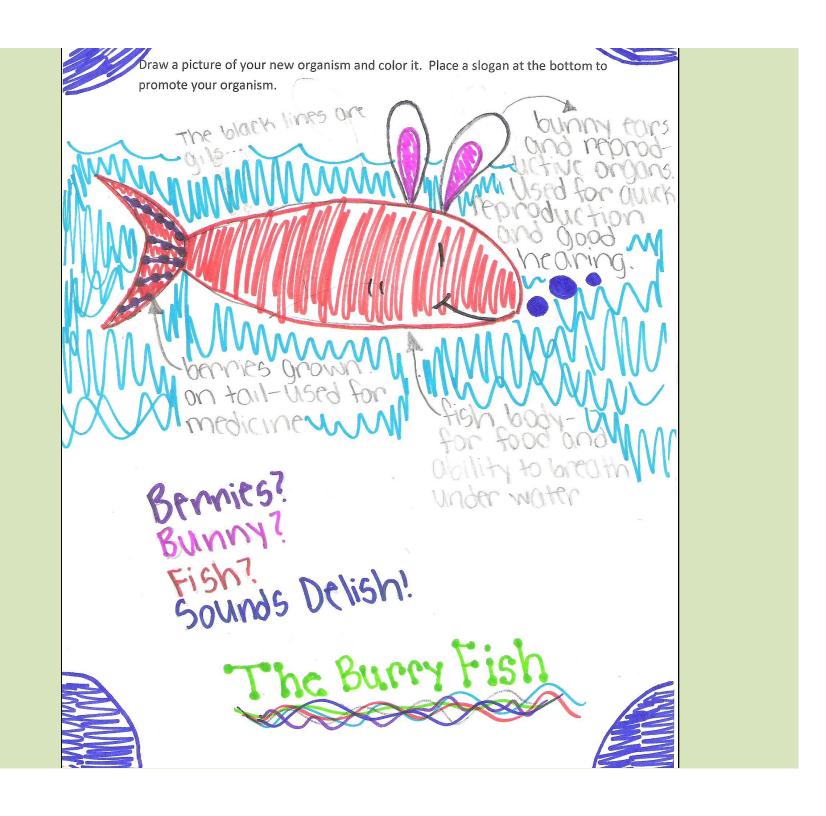
<sup>\*</sup>America's Soybean Farmers & their Check off

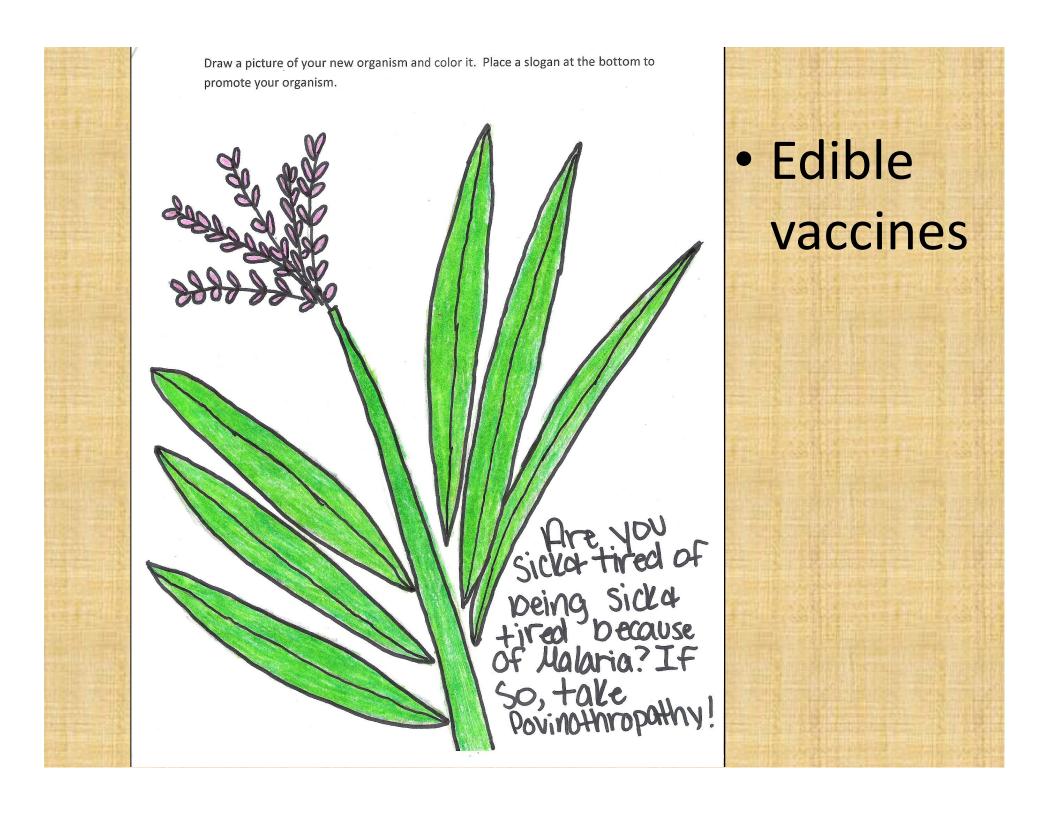
Everything you want to know about GMOs including the truth.

# Create a GMO to help feed our growing population

- 1) Pick a "base organism" in which you will add specific genes to get the desired traits.
- 2) Chose at least 3 different organisms and explain the trait from each that you want to add to your "base organism."
- 3) Name, draw, & create a slogan to promote your GMO.







#### GMOs cross the Curriculum

- Social Studies: Research countries & determine ecosystems and organisms you'd like to introduce to those nations.
- Writing: After creating the GMO they can write an informative article explaining the GMO.
- Visual arts: Draw, color create a slogan for their GMO

Frontline & Nova: *Harvest of Fear*<a href="http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/harvest/">http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/harvest/</a>

- ELA: Viewpoints ties to ELA standards showing pros & cons-could debate after researching
- Science: Guess What's coming to Dinner?