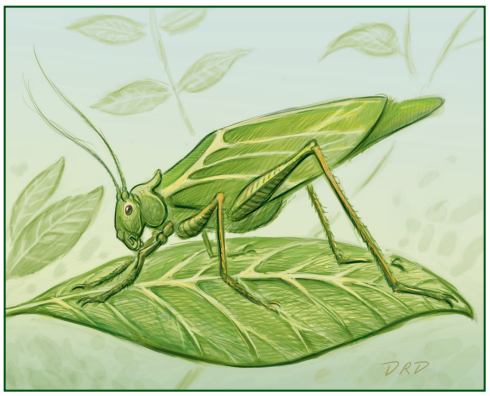
Adaptations

When is a leaf not a leaf?



When it's an insect! This **species** of katydid evolved over time to look like a leaf. Katydids are the same shade of green and the same shape as the leaves they live on. They even have lines on them that look like the veins on leaves.

With a partner, discuss:

- How do you think this **adaptation** helps the katydid?
- What explanation(s) can you offer for how this **adaptation** might have evolved?

Write your answers below:

Why doesn't this woodpecker have a headache?

The average woodpecker pecks a tree trunk at a rate of 20 pecks per second! Woodpeckers have evolved several **adaptations** that protect them from the hazards of all of this hard hammering. These include a small brain size, spongy sections of bone in their skulls, and a special beak design that softens the impact.

With a partner, discuss:

- How do you think these **adaptations** help the woodpecker?
- What explanation(s) can you offer for how these **adaptations** might have evolved?

Write your answers below: