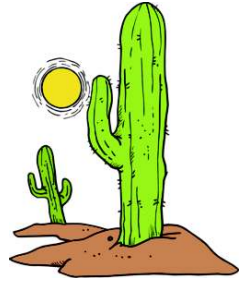


Main Idea and Details



Directions: Determine and write the main idea of the paragraph below. Then write three details supporting the main idea.

DESERT PLANTS

Desert plants have a tendency to look very different from plants native to other regions. They are often swollen, spiny, and have tiny leaves that are rarely bright green. Their strange appearance is a result of their remarkable adaptations to the challenges of the desert climate. Desert plants have adapted to the extremes of heat and aridity by using both physical and behavioral mechanisms, much like desert animals. Desert plants have developed three main adaptive strategies:

- 1) Succulence (A succulent plant or succulent is a plant that has fleshy and turgid water-storing tissues such as stems, leaves or roots, capable of retaining large amounts of moisture).
- 2) Drought tolerance (or drought dormancy) refers to a plant's ability to withstand scarcity without dying.
- 3) Drought Avoidance - In order to avoid the unfavorable conditions, the annual plants mature in a single season, then die after channeling all of their life energy into producing seeds instead of reserving some for continued survival.

Each of these adaptation is a different but effective suite of adaptations for prospering under harsh conditions that would kill plants from other regions.

What is the main Idea? _____

List of details:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____