

2. **Behavioral and physiological adaptations.** In addition to physical adaptations, pronghorn also have many behavioral adaptations that increase their chance of survival. Below is a list of behavioral and physiological adaptations that have evolved in pronghorn. Describe what you think are the advantages and/or disadvantages of each one.

a. Living in social groups

Advantages

Disadvantages

b. Seasonal migration

Advantages

Disadvantages

c. Twinning (almost 100% of pronghorn give birth to twins – giving birth to a single fawn is rare, and giving birth to triplets is almost unheard of)

Advantages

Disadvantages

- d. Hiding fawns (during the first few days after birth, pronghorn mothers hide their fawns in shrubs and grasses and the fawns lay flat and do not move until they hear their mother's individual call signaling them to stand up)

Advantages

Disadvantages

- e. Rumination (pronghorn are ruminants, meaning that they have a four-chambered stomach, including one chamber that contains microbes to help break down plant material)

Advantages

Disadvantages

Resources:

Byers, J. A. 1997. American pronghorn: social adaptations and the ghosts of predators past. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL, USA.

O'Gara, B. W. and J. D. Yoakum. 2004. *Pronghorn Ecology and Management*. University Press of Colorado, Boulder, CO, USA.