

People and Places — Life in the Desert

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child explores how people live in desert environments around the world — from the Sahara to the American Southwest. This cultural study examines desert homes, clothing, food, and adaptations.

What You Need:

- Pictures of desert communities (Sahara, Southwest US, Middle East)
- Globe or world map
- Paper and crayons
- Optional: fabric scraps to feel light desert clothing

Steps:

1. Review the desert biome from science: 'We learned what animals live in the desert. But PEOPLE live in deserts too!'
2. Show pictures of desert communities: Bedouin tents in the Sahara, adobe homes in the American Southwest, modern desert cities.
3. 'Why do desert homes look different from our home? They need to stay COOL!'
4. Discuss clothing: loose, light-colored, head coverings for sun protection.
5. Discuss food: dates, grains, goat milk, foods that don't spoil in heat.
6. 'People have lived in deserts for thousands of years. They are very clever at finding water and staying cool.'
7. Child draws a desert home and labels the features that help people stay cool.

Work Space:



