



Forests, Deserts, and Oceans



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The Forest Habitat

There are many forests around the world. A **forest** is land that is covered with trees.

 Trees have branches and leaves.

Trees make shade on the forest floor.
Shade helps keep the soil moist.



This forest
has many
trees.



These ferns need water. They do not need much light.

Forest trees need rain to grow tall. Their leaves take in light. Light helps them grow, too.

Ferns and flowers grow under the trees. These smaller plants need water, but not as much light as trees.



MAIN IDEA AND DETAILS Describe the forest floor.

Forest Animals

Many different animals live in the forest. The forest is their habitat. A **habitat** is a place where an animal finds food, water, and shelter.

Fast Fact

Young bears are called cubs.



Bears find food, water, and a place to sleep in this forest.



▶ The legs on this beetle help it to burrow in wood to find food.

▶ Bears need a large part of the forest for their habitat. They look for food and water in many different places in the forest.

▶ Wood beetles do not need much more than a log for their habitat!



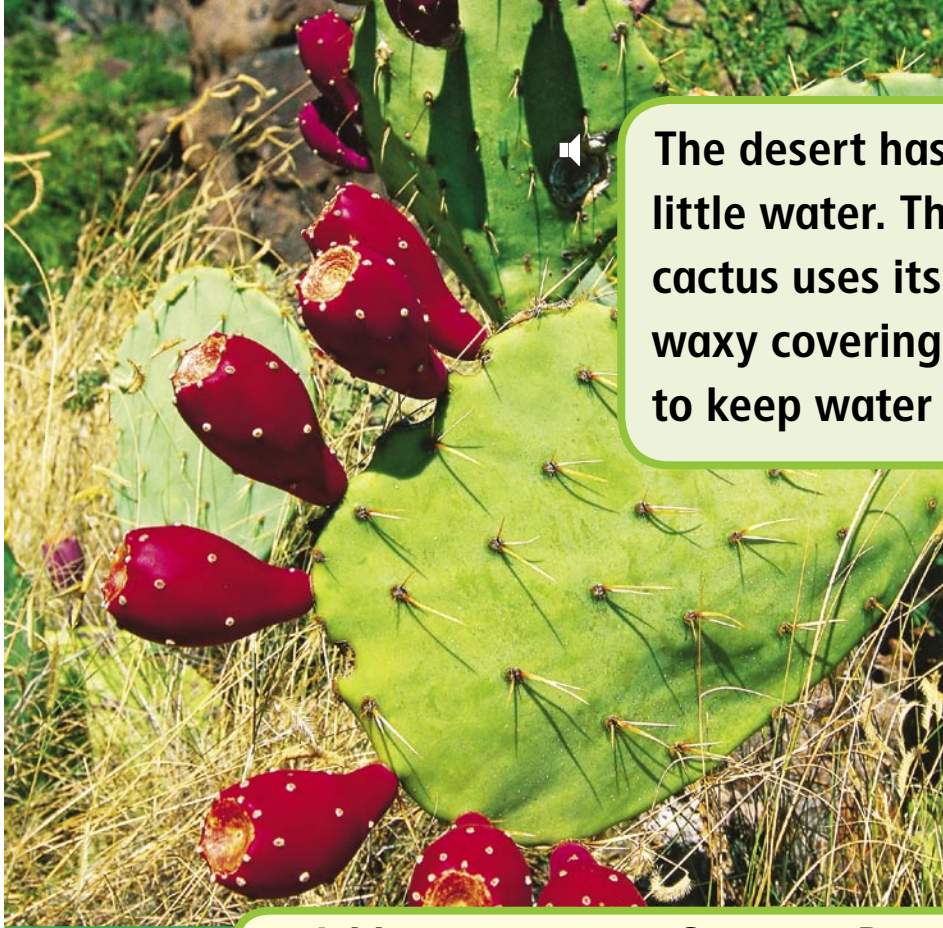
MAIN IDEA AND DETAILS What is your habitat? Tell where you find food, water, and shelter.

The Desert Habitat

A **desert** is land that gets very little rain. The soil is very dry. It is sunny all year long. Few plants and animals can live in this habitat.



 The Sonoran Desert is in Southern Arizona.



The desert has little water. This cactus uses its waxy covering to keep water in.

prickly pear cactus, Sonoran Desert


Living things can only survive in a place that gives them what they need to live. Desert plants do not need much water. They can live in a dry place such as the desert.




MAIN IDEA AND DETAILS Some plants need a lot of water. Why can the desert not be their habitat?


Desert Animals

Desert animals are special. They find ways to stay cool. They find food and water where it is very dry.

 Coyotes can find water by digging. They often hunt at night when it is cool.

Fast Fact

 Coyote melons are plants that hold water. They taste bad to most animals. Coyotes love them!

 Coyotes have a strong sense of smell. This helps them find food.





This snake is cooling off under the sand.

Desert tortoises dig homes in the ground. This keeps them cool. They eat plants for their food. These same plants give them the water they need!




MAIN IDEA AND DETAILS Why does a desert tortoise need feet that can dig?

The Ocean Habitat

An ocean is a large body of salt water. It is a habitat for fish, sea turtles, and other ocean animals. These animals find what they need in or near the salt water.

Fast Fact

 A baleen whale eats 8,000 pounds (3,629 kilograms) of food a day. It has no teeth.



MAIN IDEA AND DETAILS Where does a crab find its food?



 The crab's legs help it get food.







▶ This whale finds food in deep, cold water. A layer of fat keeps it warm.

▶ **Summary**






A habitat is an animal's home. Animals live in the habitat where they can find food, water, and shelter. Some animals live in the forest. Some live in the desert. Some live in the ocean.



Glossary

-  **desert** A land that gets very little rain
(6, 7, 8, 9, 11)
-  **forest** A land that is covered with trees
(2, 3, 4, 5, 11)
-  **habitat** The place where an animal finds food, water, and shelter
(2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11)
-  **ocean** A large body of salt water
(10, 11)

Think and Write

-  **1.** What lives in a forest?
-  **2. MAIN IDEA AND DETAILS** How can a cactus plant grow in the desert?
-  **3. MAIN IDEA AND DETAILS** Where does a whale find its food?
-   **4.** Write a story about a day and night in a coyote's life.

Hands-On Activity

With a partner, write a list of things you would need in a desert habitat.

School-Home Connection

Talk with a family member about forests, deserts, and oceans. Which place do you like best?