

DESCRIBING Habitats

Designed for English Language Learners



Listening Reading Speaking Writing

LISTENING

Teacher Script & Answer Key

Listening Activity
Animals & Habitats

Students circle the correct image on the student answer page.

- This landform is tall and rocky.
- This habitat is dry, hot and sandy.
- This small landform has water and in water.
- This habitat is dense with trees.
- This large animal lives in the savanna.
- This small gray animal lives in the forest.
- This tall animal lives in the tundra.
- This habitat is cold and snowy.
- This plant has sharp spines.
- This animal has white fur.

Circle the correct picture.

-   
-   
-   
-   
-   

NAME _____

Animals and Habitats Listening Activity
Student Answer Sheet

Listen carefully, then circle the answer choice.

1.	A	B	C	D
2.	A	B	C	D

Circle the correct picture.

-    
-    
-    
-    
-    

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ANIMALS IN THE ARCTIC Listening Activity

Where is the arctic?

- the southern end of the world
- the northern end of the world
- near the equator

How do animals in the arctic stay warm?

- dense fur
- thick layers of fat
- woolly coats
- all of the above

Which bird lives in the arctic?

- flamingo
- penguin
- snowy owl

Why are there no trees in the tundra?

- the air is too cold
- the ground is frozen, so roots would die
- there's not enough water

Why do some animals' fur change color?

- to stay warm
- to stay cool
- to camouflage, or hide from predators

Animal Knowledge

ARCTIC ANIMALS



YOU TUBE



links to videos, books & articles

SPEAKING

LET'S TALK!

WORD - SENTENCE - DISCOURSE

1 - What habitat is this? This is _____.

2 - What type of plants and animals live here?



3 - What does the landscape look like?
The landscape has _____.

4 - How do animals survive in this habitat?

LET'S TALK!

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5 - Describe the climate in this habitat. Does it change with the seasons?

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GO FISH! - LANDSCAPES

Deal the cards - Each player gets 5 cards. The rest of the cards go in a pile in the middle ("the pond").

Take turns - On your turn, ask another player: "Do you have a _____?" (name a land feature you already have one of your cards). For example: "Do you have an ocean?"

If they have it - they must give you the card. You put the pair (two of the same land feature) face up in front of you. - You get another turn.

If they don't have it - they say, "Go fish!" You draw one card from the middle pile. If you make a pair, put it down. If not, your turn is over.

Keep playing - Players keep asking, fishing, and making pairs.

If a player runs out of cards during the game, a card is taken from the pile.

Winning - the game ends when all cards are paired. The player with the most pairs wins.

Tip: Use the sentence frame lent:

"Do you have _____?"
 "Yes, here you go."
 "No, go fish!"



Plus- a fun Landscapes "Go Fish!" game

READING

The Forest

2

Forests are habitats filled with tall trees, plants, and many different kinds of animals. Some forests are cool and rainy, while others are warm and dry. The land in a forest can be flat or covered with hills. Forests provide food, shelter, and shade for many living things. Deer eat leaves and grass and walk quietly through the trees. Raccoons are active at night and search for food near streams or in hollow logs. Bears live in caves or dens and eat both plants and other animals. Birds, like owls, fly from tree to tree and hunt for small animals, like mice. Forests are also rich in plant life. Pine trees grow tall and stay green all year. Ferns and wildflowers cover the forest floor, and mushrooms grow in dark, damp places. Forests are full of life and change with the seasons.



The Forest

1

A forest is a habitat with many trees. The land can be flat or hilly. The weather changes with the seasons. The forest is cold in winter and warm in summer. Many animals and birds live in the forest. Squirrels, deer, bears, raccoons, and owls live in forests. Some animals live in the trees, and others make homes on the ground or underground. Plants, like tall pine trees, green ferns, and wildflowers grow there. The forest provides food and shelter for many animals.



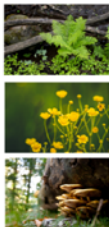
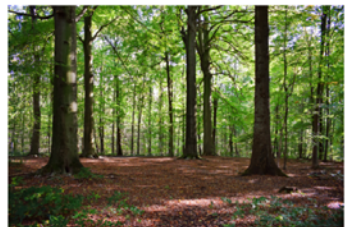
Did you know?

Squirrels are smart. They hide and bury food all year for the winter.

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The Forest

The forest has many tall trees. The ground is green with plants and flowers. Mushrooms grow in the forest too. Bears and deer live in the forest. They eat plants and berries. Birds and squirrels live in the forest too. They eat seeds and nuts. The forest is a cool and shady home to many plants and animals.



Comprehension Questions

- What grows in the forest?
A. trees
B. seaweed
C. lily pads
- Which animal live in the forest?
A. fish
B. deer
C. camel
- What do squirrels eat?
A. mushrooms
B. bugs
C. seeds and nuts
- What is the forest like?
A. hot and dry
B. cool and shady
C. cold and windy

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The Desert

2

The desert is a dry habitat with very little rainfall. During the day the temperature is hot, but at night it can be cold. The land is covered with sand, rocks, and sometimes tall dunes.

Animals that live in the desert have special adaptations that help them survive the extreme heat and lack of water. For example, camels have wide flat feet to help them walk on sand. They also have long eyelashes to help keep the sand out of their eyes. A camel's hump stores fat, which helps them go many days without drinking water. Reptiles, like lizards and snakes, stay cool by hiding under rocks. Coyotes and rabbits have light colored fur to camouflage, or



The Desert

1

The desert is hot and dry. It has little rain. The land is sandy and rocky. The desert has tall sand dunes too.

What animals live in the desert? Camels live in the desert. Camels have flat feet to help them walk on sand. They have long eyelashes to keep sand out of their eyes. They have a hump on their back to store fat. It helps them go many



days with no water. Lizards and snakes stay cool under rocks. Coyotes and rabbits have light colored fur to camouflage, or other animals.



cactus



What plants live in the desert? Cactus plants live in the desert. They have long spines to store water. Cactus plants have special ways to survive.

The Desert

The desert is hot and dry. The land has sand and rocks. Some animals sleep during the day and come out at night. Camels live in the desert. They can walk for a long time without water. Lizards and snakes hide under rocks to stay cool. Cactus plants grow in the desert. They store water in their stems. Plants and animals in the desert have special ways to survive.



Comprehension Questions

- What is the desert like?
A. cold and snowy
B. hot and dry
C. wet and rainy
D. full of trees
- Where do lizards and snakes hide?
A. in trees
B. in the snow
C. in rivers
D. under rocks
- Why can camels live in the desert?
A. they eat fish
B. they run fast
C. they can go without water
D. they have sharp teeth
- How do cactus plants grow?
A. they store water
B. they grow tall
C. they go to sleep
D. they have sharp spines

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6 Habitats
-3 levels each-

VOCABULARY

landforms

natural features of land

dune



valley



river



mountain

habitats

places where plants and animals live



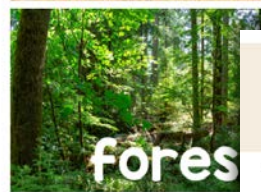
desert



pond



grassland



forest

ecosystem

all living and nonliving things in a habitat



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climate

the weather found in a certain area over a long period of time



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plants

living things that grow on earth and make their own food

leaves

flowers



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animals

living things that move, eat and reproduce



adaptations

physical features or behaviors that help animals survive



camouflage



sharp teeth/claws



hibernate



migrate

Posters

WRITING

Animal



habitat
where it lives

physical features
What it looks like

Diet
What it eats

predators
its enemies (what eats it)

DESCRIBE IT!

How it looks 

How it feels 

How it sounds 

How it smells 

Name:

can

have

are

Name:

DESCRIBE IT!

What do you see?



Adjectives: (describe nouns)

Adverbs: (describe verbs)

is - are
has - have

WRITE ABOUT IT!

Describe an Animal

Animal

lives	moves	eats	has

HABITAT PROCESS GRID

Landforms Features	Climate Weather	Animals	Plants

 DESCRIBE A HABITAT

Habitat

Landscape / Landforms

Animals

Plants

Climate

Sketch it!

MIND MAP

BUBBLE MAP

Name:

Graphic Organizers

GRAMMAR

Adjectives → describe nouns

Adjectives tell how something looks, feels, tastes, smells or sounds.

color	size/shape	appearance	climate	landscape
white	long	rough	hot	grassy
brown	short	smooth	cold	swampy
green	tall	bumpy	dry	sandy
blue	deep	furry	wet	rocky
gray				
orange				

Adjective

Noun



long

tail



white

fur



sharp

claws



snow-covered

mountain



dense

forest

Adverbs → describe verbs

Adverbs tell how, when or where something happens.

manner (how)	frequency (how often)	time (when)	place (where)
loudly	always	at night	underground
carefully	usually	during the day	above
clumsily	sometimes	after dark	below
softly	seldom	late	outside

Verb

Adverb



walk

slowly



swim

gracefully



roar

loudly



hunt

quietly



sleep

deeply

Prepositions & Prepositional Phrases

A preposition shows the relationship between a noun or pronoun and another word in the sentence. It tells how things are connected (place, time, direction). Prepositions are always followed by a noun.

location	time	direction
in	at	into
on	after	onto
under	before	down
below	during	across

Preposition

Prepositional Phrase



under

under a log



in

in the snow



around

around a branch



up

up a tree



during

during the winter

SENTENCE PATTERNS

adjective describes a noun	noun person, place, thing, animal	verb action	adverb describes a verb
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adjective describes a noun	noun person, place, thing, animal	verb action	adverb describes a verb	prepositional phrase tells where, when or direction
-------------------------------	--------------------------------------	----------------	----------------------------	--

bear

subject/noun

The big black bear walks slowly through the forest

adjective adjective subject/noun verb adverb prepositional phrase

The big black bear walks slowly through the forest.

subject/noun

adjective adjective subject/noun verb adverb prepositional phrase

ADJECTIVE SORT

size/shape	appearance	texture	condition
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ADJECTIVES

tall

flat

wide

dry

cold

wet

hot

rocky

grassy

deep

shallow

sandy

dense

green

blue

fluffy

frozen

rough

bumpy

hard

hilly

smooth

golden

soft

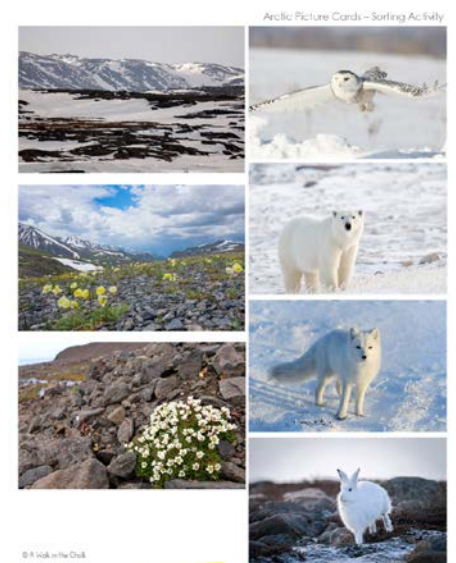
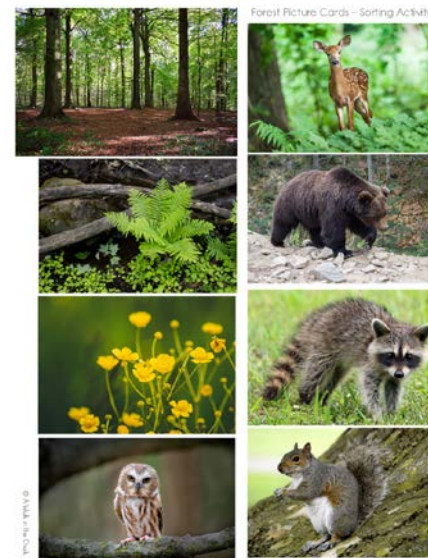
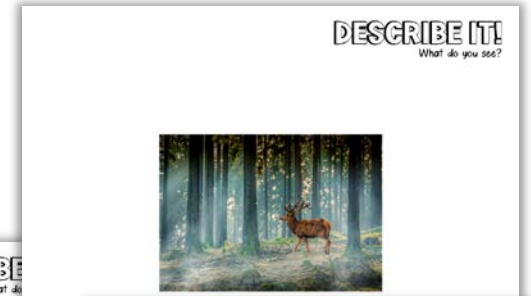
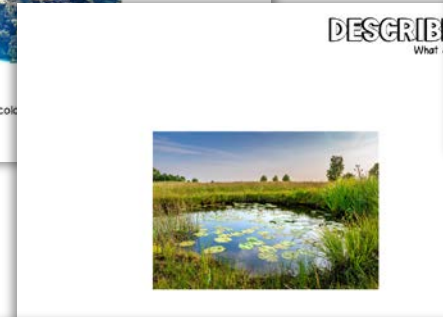
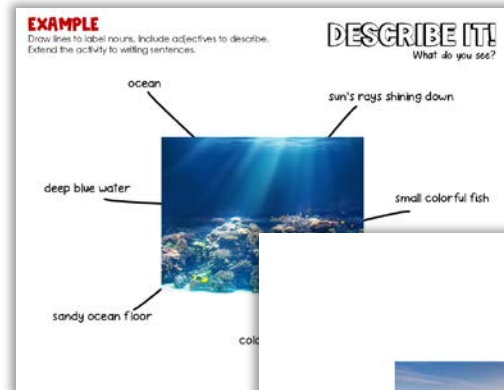
striped

spotted

muddy

Posters, Activities & Reference Charts

AND MORE



Habitat Posters & Picture Cards