

GRASSLANDS

Grasslands are wide expanses of land filled with low growing plants such as grasses and wildflowers. The amount of rain is not enough to grow tall trees and produce a forest, but it is enough to not form a desert. www.ducksters.com



POLAR HABITAT



Polar habitats cover the top and bottom of planet Earth at the North and South Poles. The North Pole is surrounded by the Arctic Ocean. There isn't any land here, just a group of continually shifting ice sheets. Parts of Canada and Greenland are near the North Pole. The South Pole is located on Antarctica. This area has land, but it's completely covered with a layer of ice that's almost three miles thick in some places. <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>



DESERTS

Deserts are primarily defined by their lack of rain. They generally get 10 inches or less rain in a year. Deserts are characterized in an overall lack of water. They have dry soil, little to no surface water, and high evaporation. They are so dry that sometimes rain evaporates before it can hit the ground! www.ducksters.com



MOUNTAINS

From bottom to top, a mountain has several biomes of life. At the very bottom, foothills often have lush deciduous forests, meaning that the trees lose their leaves in winter. Higher up are coniferous forests with tall pines and other evergreen trees.

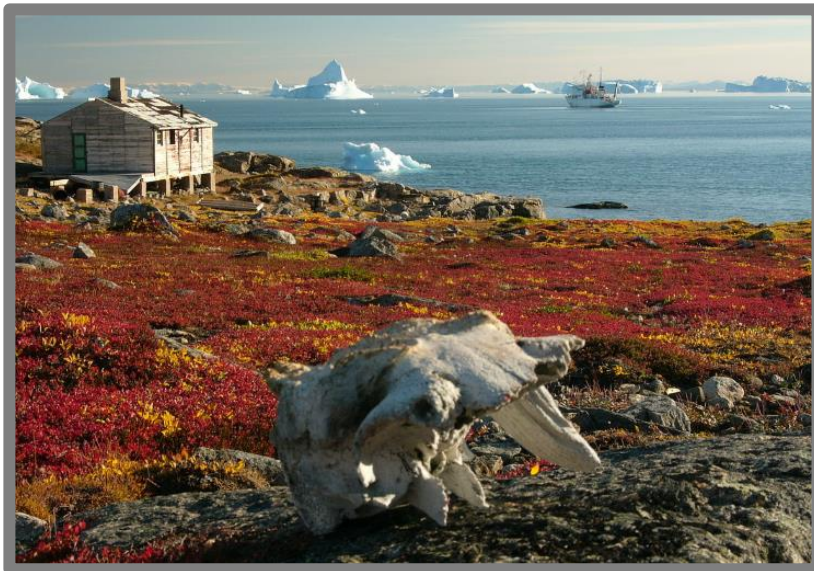
The farther up a mountain one climbs, the colder it gets—about one degree Fahrenheit cooler every 300 feet. This is usually where the 'tree line' ends, and the where plants become much smaller. Most plants can't thrive at the top of some superhigh mountains. There, all you have is just snow-covered rocks!
<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/nature/habitats/mountain/>



TUNDRA

Tundra ecosystems are treeless regions found in the Arctic and on the tops of mountains, where the climate is cold and windy, and rainfall is scant. Tundra lands are covered with snow for much of the year, but summer brings bursts of wildflowers.

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/habitats/tundra-biome/>



TEMPERATE FORESTS



A deciduous forest is composed mostly of trees that shed all their leaves each year. These areas all have a temperate climate characterized by a winter season. The deciduous trees that grow in these regions lose their leaves in the fall and remain bare in the winter. They grow new leaves in the spring. The three main regions of deciduous forest have year-round precipitation. Deciduous forest also extends into more arid regions along stream banks and around bodies of water. Deciduous forests are also called temperate deciduous forests or temperate forests.

<https://kids.britannica.com/students/article/deciduous-forest/631466>



RAINFORESTS

Rainforests are lush, warm, wet habitats. Trees in the rainforest grow very tall because they have to compete with other plants for sunlight. The tallest trees spread their branches and leaves blocking the light from the trees below, and creating a canopy over the forest. When one of the big trees dies and falls, the opening lets in more sunlight so that a smaller tree can grow and take its place. <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>



FRESH WATER

Rivers, creeks, lakes, ponds, and streams are all freshwater habitats. So are wetlands like swamps, which have woody plants and trees; and marshes, which have no trees but lots of grasses and reeds. Freshwater accounts for only three percent of the world's water. (The rest is saltwater.) But despite that tiny amount, freshwater habitats are homes for more than 100,000 species of plants and animals.

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/nature/habitats/freshwater/>



OCEANS

Oceans are areas of salty water that fill enormous basins on the Earth's surface. Even though Earth has one continuous body of saltwater, scientists and geographers divide it into five different sections. Oceans are deep as well as wide. Oceans help keep Earth's climate habitable. By moving water around the globe, the oceans help to keep places from getting too hot or too cold. Oceans also help keep the planet warm. The vast amount of warm water stores heat in the ocean, then ocean currents carry that heat around the planet. Without oceans, the Earth would be an icy rock.

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/nature/habitats/ocean/>

