

These pages are from the G2 "There are Many Types of Living Things" journal.



## There are many types of living things

There are many different types of plants and animals. Some are furry, some have feathers, some have scales and others are slippery. Each of these creatures have special abilities that help them live well in their habitat. A **habitat** is the place where a living thing makes its home.



**Rainforest**



**Desert**



**Savanna**



**Alpine habitat**



**Temperate Forest**



**Tundra**

All living things are interconnected with their environment. In a habitat, living things depend on non-living things such as air, water, soil and sunlight.

## The Parts of a Habitat



**Air**



**The Sun**



**Soil**



**Water**



**Animals**



**Insects**



**Plants**

*Together, living and nonliving things in an area form a habitat.*

# The tropical rainforest of the Amazon

**Rainforests** get more rain than any other place on earth. Rainforests have more types of animal and plant life than any other habitat. More than half of all the world's species are found in rain forests. The trees in rainforests create almost half of the oxygen that we breathe. Rainforests are warm and get lots of moisture from rain.

Search Google Earth to explore the Amazon



Anori, Brazil

What is a rainforest habitat like?



Think, Pair, Share!



A rainforest can receive between 80 inches and 430 inches of rainfall per year.

To see how much rain falls in the Amazon try measuring out to 80 and 430 inches.



There are many different types of plants and animals that live in the rainforest.



The slow-moving sloth spends most of its life hanging upside down by its strong claws.



The squirrel monkey moves quickly in trees. Its tail is used only for balance, not for climbing.

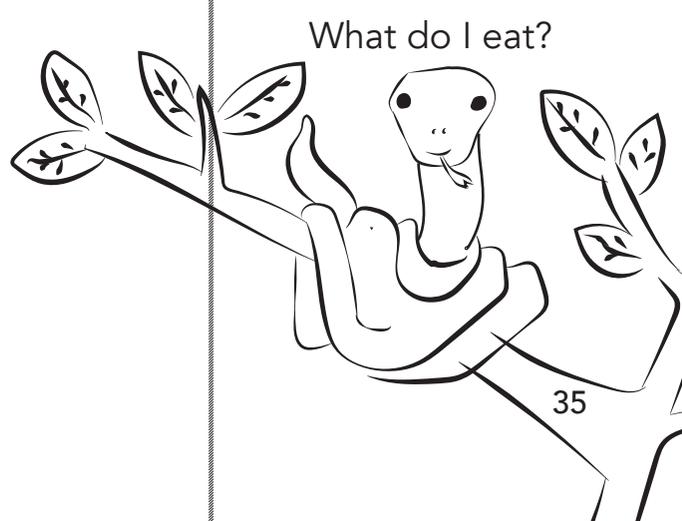
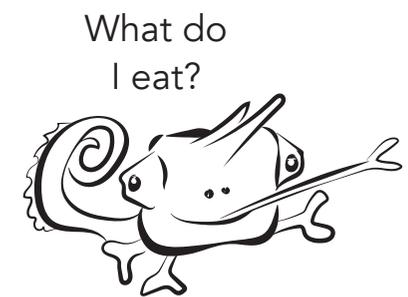
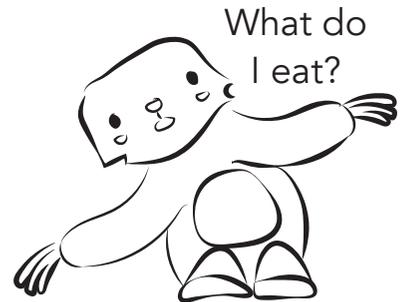


Chameleons move slowly. They shoot out a long, sticky tongue to quickly catch their lunch.



The green tree boa silently waits in trees for its lunch to come to it.

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# The desert of Sonora, Arizona

Most **deserts** are hot and get very little rain. Some of the driest deserts, such as the Sahara, get as little as 10 centimeters (4 inches) per year. Try measuring 10 cm to see how much rain falls in the desert.



Cecropia tree leaves



Fruit and insects



Insects



Birds, bats & lizards



Use Google Earth to explore the the Sonoran desert.



How are animals in the desert different from each other?



Think,  
Pair,  
Share!

There are many types of animals and plants that are well adapted to living with very little moisture in deserts.

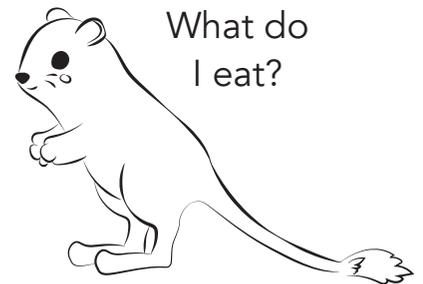
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The pygmy owl makes a safe home by digging a hole in a spiky saguaro cactus.

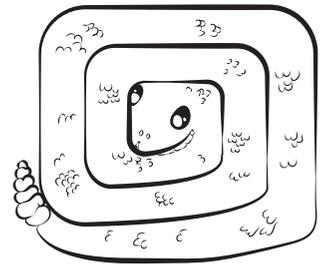


The kangaroo rat gets water from the seeds and grass that it eats. It may never take a drink of water in its life.



The rattlesnake is a predator that is most active at night when its food is awake.

What do I eat?



The desert iguana digs burrows in the sand to protect itself from the sun's heat during the daytime.

What do I eat?



## The savanna grasslands

A **savanna** is a grassland with thin forests of trees. The forests of a savanna are thin enough that the trees do not block light from hitting the ground. The savanna is usually hot and dry, but it has a wet rainy season too.



Birds, insects & rodents



Mesquite and grass seed



Rodents and birds



Creosote bush leaves



Search Google Earth to explore a savanna.



How are animals in the savanna different from each other?



Think,  
Pair,  
Share!

There are many types of animals and plants that are well adapted to living in the savanna.



The African elephant is the largest land mammal on earth. It eats about 200 pounds (90 kilograms) of food per day.



The zebra constantly searches for water and food. They migrate 500 miles between the wet and dry seasons.



Termites create mounds of dirt that they use for their protection. Inside the mound they grow their own food.

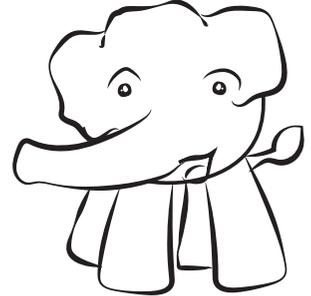


The dung beetle shapes a piece of dung into a ball. It lays its eggs inside so its young can have food when they hatch.

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What do I eat?



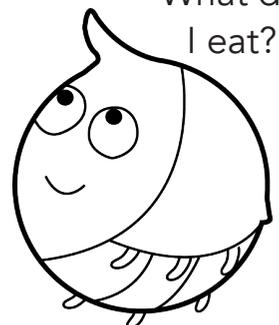
What do I eat?



What do I eat?



What do I eat?



## Alpine habitats

**Alpine habitats** are found all over the world in high mountains that are at least 10,000 feet above sea level. These habitats have a short growing season for plants in the summer. The elevation is too high for trees to grow.



Grass and leaves



Fruit and insects



Fungus



Elephant dung



Search Google Earth to explore an alpine habitat.



How are animals in an alpine habitat different from each other?



Think,  
Pair,  
Share!

There are many types of animals and plants that are well adapted to living in the cold alpine habitat.



A mountain goat's thick wool allows it to survive in temperatures as cold as  $-50^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $-45^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).



Marmots hibernate, or sleep all winter to avoid the harsh conditions.



Pika do not hibernate in winter. They make their dens under rocks and store grasses in their den.

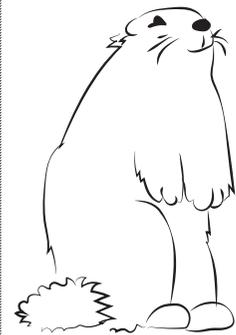


Tiny hairs all over the edelweiss plant and flowers protect it from harsh sunlight, drying out or freezing.

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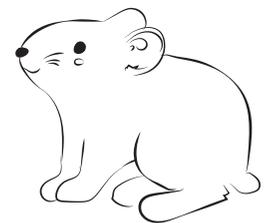


What do I eat?

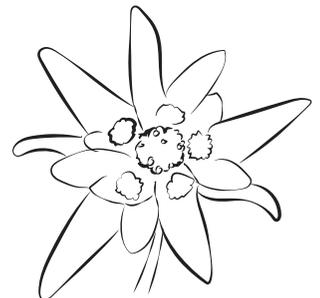


What do I eat?

What do I eat?



What do I need to survive?



# Temperate forests

**Temperate forests** get a fair amount of rain and are warm in the summer and cold in the winter. The trees in a temperate forest are deciduous, meaning that they lose their leaves every year in winter.



Grass



Grass and insects



Plants



Fuzz



Search Google Earth to explore a temperate forest.



Describe the animals from a forest habitat. What makes them unique?



Think,  
Pair,  
Share!

There are many types of animals and plants that are well adapted to living in temperate forests.



Bears eat lots of food to become fat in the summer. They hibernate in the winter when food is scarce.



Deer live in large groups called herds. They can run fast enough to outrun predators.



Raccoons are known for being very clever and can use their front paws like hands.



Squirrels are very good climbers. They live in trees and collect acorns and other seeds to eat.

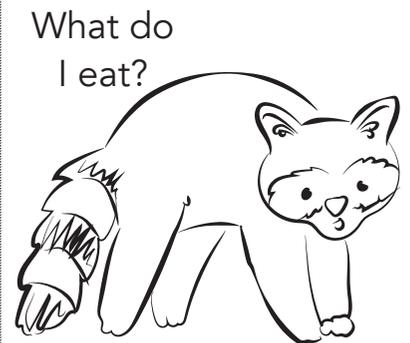
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What do I eat?



What do I eat?



What do I eat?



What do I eat?

## Arctic tundra

The **arctic tundra** is a very cold habitat with harsh living conditions. The tundra is frozen most of the year and plants there look scrubby and small. Only the top few inches of soil thaw and the ground underneath remains frozen year round.



Berries, fish, insects



Grasses



Plants and animals



Seeds and nuts



Search Google Earth to explore an arctic tundra.



Describe the plants that you see in the Arctic tundra. What makes them unique?



Think,  
Pair,  
Share!

There are many types of animals and plants that are well adapted to living in the tundra.



Caribou have thick fur and strong legs that allow them to travel thousands of miles in search of food and water.



The arctic fox has soft, thick white fur that help it blend into the snow so that it can't be seen while hunting.



The arctic hare has white fur in the winter and brown fur in the summer so it can blend into its surroundings.



Plants in the tundra are small because the soil lacks nutrients and roots can only penetrate a few inches into thawed soil.

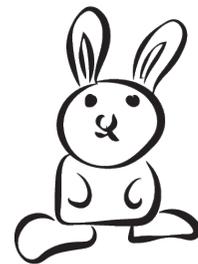
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What do I eat?



What do I eat?



What do I eat?



What do I need to survive?

# Polar ice habitats

At Earth's **polar regions**, the darkness of winter lasts for months and cold winds blow across the landscape. Even though its cold, polar regions have diverse wildlife above and below the ice.



Grasses



Small animals like voles



Plants, mosses & lichens



Sunlight and water



Search Google Earth to explore a polar ice habitat.



How are animals in the polar regions different from each other?



There are many types of animals and plants that are well adapted to living in polar regions.



Polar bears are excellent swimmers and hunters. They roam the arctic ice in search of prey.



The ringed seal has long claws on its front flippers used for digging breathing holes in the ice.



The penguin is a bird that has wings that act as flippers. They can swim deep in the arctic waters in search of food.



Orca whales are very smart and social. They hunt together in family groups and communicate with each other using sounds underwater.

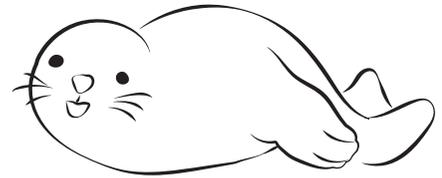
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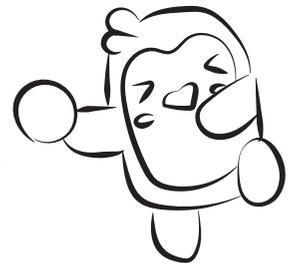
What do I eat?



What do I eat?



What do I eat?



What do I eat?

