



READING COMPREHENSION

HABITAT

A habitat is the place where an animal or a plant live. Most habitats include a community of animals and plants. There are mainly two kind of habitats: **land habitats and water habitats.** (Resource: <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/nature/habitats/>)

Land Habitats:

There are many types of land habitats like rainforests, deserts, and mountains. Because of their moist climate, **rainforests** support more kinds of plant and animal life than any other habitat. In contrast, **deserts** support only animals and plants that can live without much water. **Mountain** habitats have thin soil and cold temperatures making it difficult for plants and animals to survive. Other types of forests, grasslands, and tundra provide other land habitats. **Grassland** habitats are places that receive more rain than deserts but less than forests. Most of the plants here are grasses, which don't need as much water. Grasslands are usually found between the mountains and deserts. **Rainforests** are lush, warm, wet habitats. More than half of the world's animals and plants live in the rainforest. Trees in the rainforest grow very tall because they have to compete with other plants for sunlight. Most rainforests are found along or near the Equator, where it tends to be hot. The biggest rainforest is the Amazon rainforest. The **tundra** is a large, barren region with no or very short trees. They cover about 20 percent of Earth's surface. They are some of the coldest places on Earth. Animals in the tundra tend to have small ears and tails. The tundra has two distinct seasons: a long winter and a short summer. Being so far north, the tundra has long nights in the winter and long days in the summer.

Water Habitats:

Water habitats may contain freshwater or salt water. **Freshwater** habitats include streams, rivers, swamps, marshes, ponds, and lakes. Freshwater accounts for only three percent of the world's water. The rest is **saltwater**. Some animals and plants, such as fish and seaweed, live entirely in the water. Others, such as otters, frogs and river weeds, live partly in and partly out of the water. Plants such as algae, water lilies, and willow trees help keep the water clean by using their root systems to filter pollution and absorb nutrients from the water. **Rivers** are created when water from melting snow or ice runs down mountains, and always flow to an ocean. **Oceans** are areas of salty water that cover 71% of the Earth's surface. 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. The words "ocean" and "sea" are often used to mean the same thing. A **sea**, however, is a small area of an ocean, usually with land on several sides. Some of the smallest animals on Earth can be found in the ocean. Sea animals like zooplankton are so small you can see them only with a special instrument called microscope. The largest animal ever to live on Earth is an ocean mammal called the blue whale. It's as long as two school buses! Scientists estimate that we've only explored 5 percent of the ocean. Maybe you'll be the next person to discover a new species of fish.

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Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

1. Name the two main kinds of habitats.

2. Name three types of land habitats.

3. Where do more than half of world animals and plants live?

4. Why do a variety of animals and plants live in a rainforest?

5. Why is it difficult for plants and animals to survive on top of high mountains?

6. Why do trees grow very tall in a rainforest?

7. Arrange the following habitats in increasing order of the rainfall: Rainforests, deserts, grasslands.

8. How do you identify the Tundra habitat region?

9. Name two main types of water habitats.

10. What percent of earth's water is freshwater?

11. How are rivers created?

12. Without oceans, the Earth would be an icy rock. Why?

13. What percent of earth's surface is covered by oceans?

14. Search the internet to find the ocean near the East coast of Canada.

15. Dinosaur was the largest animal ever to live on the earth. True or false? If false, name the animal.

16. How is a sea different from the ocean? Name the sea closest to the east coast of Canada. Use internet.

17. In your opinion, name the habitat of James Bay Eeyou region. Give two reasons.

18. Name the device used to see very small sea animals.

19. Which is the biggest rainforest on earth?

20. Name any animal which can live both inside and outside the water.

