

# What's included?

Pre-reading vocabulary

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ECOSYSTEMS

| Important vocabulary |             |            |         |
|----------------------|-------------|------------|---------|
| community            | environment | unique     | survive |
| producer             | consumer    | decomposer | balance |

**Read the passage**

An ecosystem is a community of living things, including plants, animals, and microorganisms, that work together in a specific environment. It can be a large forest or a small pond and vary in size, temperature, landscape, and habitat.

Although ecosystems are unique, they all rely on others to survive. For instance, trees provide shelter and food for animals in a forest ecosystem. In return, animals help spread seeds and keep insect populations at a healthy level. All the parts of an ecosystem work together.

Ecosystems have different producers, consumers, and decomposers. Producers can be plants which make food through sunlight. Consumers are animals that eat plants or other animals for energy. Decomposers, like fungi and bacteria, break down dead materials and return the nutrients to the soil. This cycle keeps ecosystems balanced and healthy.

When one part of an ecosystem changes, it affects all other parts. For example, if a river dries up, plants lose their water source and may die. As a result, animals that eat plants lose their food source. Human actions can harm ecosystems through pollution and deforestation. Protecting ecosystems is important to provide clean air, water, and natural resources.

4 nonfiction topics:

- Habitats
- Nocturnal Animals
- Endangered Species
- Ecosystems

Comprehension questions

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## HABITATS

| Key facts from the text                                                        |                                                               |                                               |                                                                        |                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| A habitat is the natural home of an animal where it can find food and shelter. | Polar bears live in the Arctic and have thick fur to survive. | Rainforests are wet and warm with many trees. | Desert animals such as camels have adaptations to survive in the heat. | Deforestation and climate change threaten animals' homes. |

**Answer the comprehension questions**

1. What is a habitat?
2. Why is the Arctic a suitable habitat for polar bears?
3. Name three animals that live in rainforests.
4. How do animals in the desert adapt to the heat?
5. Why are camels well suited for desert habitats?
6. Describe two features of rainforest habitats.
7. How does a dense canopy help animals in the rainforest?
8. Why is it important to protect animal habitats?
9. What impact does climate change have on animal habitats?
10. If you could choose a habitat to study further, which it would, and why?

Fluency tracking

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## HABITATS

**Read the passage 3 times**

All animals need a safe place to live and find food to survive. This place is called a habitat. Each animal has a specific habitat that meets its needs. For example, polar bears live in cold and snowy Arctic regions. Their thick fur and layers of body fat help them survive the freezing temperatures. They rely on icy waters to hunt seals as their main food source.

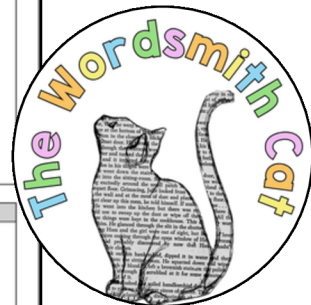
Meanwhile, rainforests are suitable habitats for animals like jaguars, toucans, and tree frogs. This habitat is warm, wet, and full of trees that create a dense canopy. The lush plants provide food and shelter for many species. Rainforest animals are often colorful and can camouflage with bright flowers and leaves.

Deserts are another type of habitat. This is where animals like camels, lizards, and scorpions live. Deserts are hot and dry, so these animals have adapted to conserve water. Camels can go days without drinking water and store fat in their humps for energy.

Every habitat on Earth is unique and supports animals living there. Unfortunately, habitats are shrinking due to deforestation and climate change. Protecting these habitats is essential for animals' survival. Each habitat is a special home for amazing creatures.

**Record the amount of words read**

| 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| ★                       | ★★                      | ★★★                     |
| /199                    | /199                    | /199                    |



# Why you'll love it.



Easy to read passages



Comprehension questions & activities



Build vocabulary skills



Improve fluency

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- ✓ Independent reading practice
- ✓ Supplement explicit reading strategies
- ✓ Intervention task
- ✓ Homework activity
- ✓ Small group reading

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**ENDANGERED SPECIES**

**Important vocabulary**

|              |          |            |            |
|--------------|----------|------------|------------|
| species      | survival | ecosystems | habitats   |
| conservation | restore  | educate    | protecting |

**Read the passage**

Endangered species are animals and plants that are at high risk of becoming extinct. When a species becomes endangered, it means that its population is very low. Without protection, these species could disappear completely. Species can become endangered for many reasons, including human activities. Deforestation, pollution, and climate change are major reasons for species becoming endangered because they harm natural habitats and make survival difficult.

Many endangered animals, like tigers, pandas, and sea turtles, are well known. They have unique roles in ecosystems. Tigers help control populations of other animals to balance ecosystems. Sea turtles keep oceans healthy by maintaining seagrass beds. These habitats provide a home for other sea life. Pandas help to disperse seeds in their habitat through their diet which helps plants and vegetation to grow and thrive. Seeds also get caught in pandas' fur which helps them spread when to climb and swim.

Conservation efforts around the world aim to protect endangered species. Many organizations restore habitats, reduce hunting, and educate people about biodiversity. By protecting endangered species, we are also protecting the health of ecosystems and the balance of nature.



# Teach reading!

Engage students in reading comprehension.

Help students find evidence in the text on each page.

Make reading comprehension feel achievable.

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