



Desert Habitat

3RD GRADE • 4TH GRADE

SUMMER LESSONS



Extended Learning Partnership

Deserts: What is a Habitat?

Today, you saw a video about deserts and some of the animals who live there. Animals who live in the deserts we talked about have to survive in very hot, very dry places. To survive in the desert, animals have parts of their body (which we can call structures) or things that they do (we call these behaviors) which help them survive.

If a structure or behavior is:

- Something the animal is born with
- Something it cannot change
- Something it inherited from its parents
- Something that helps it survive in its habitat

Then we call it an adaptation. Some examples of an adaptation could be fur color, body size, or burrowing underground when it's hot outside. If something doesn't change an animal's chance of survival, it isn't an adaptation.

Activity:

- Watch the video again. Can you list the adaptations the animals in the video have? Challenge yourself to name as many adaptations as you can!

Writing prompt:

- You are an explorer preparing for a desert adventure. Introduce yourself, and write a story about getting ready for your trip to the desert. Since you don't have desert adaptations like the plants and animals in the desert, what do you need to bring? What desert animals are you hoping to see?

Math:

- The fennec fox lives in a rectangular exhibit at eth zoo. The length of the exhibit is 15 feet and the width is 10 feet. What is the area of the exhibit?
- On a Saturday, 6,452 people entered the Fresno Chaffe zoo. On Sunday, 5,939 people also entered to zoo. How many people went to the zoo over the weekend?

Check for Understanding:

- Explain how the large ears of a fennec fox are an adaptation for living in the desert.

