



Knowledge Organiser	Subject: Understanding the World	Topic: Habitats	Year: Reception
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What should I know?

The names of different animals

Be able to categorize animals into the correct categories e.g., farm and sea.

To name different habitats e.g. A forest, an ocean, a jungle

To be able to describe the names of different habitats.

Key Questions

Tell me the name of this animal.

Why you think that a x lives in that habitat?

What is it like in that habitat?

How is their body adapted to that habitat?

Key Photographs



Interesting Facts

- Some animals, like camels, can live for weeks without water, making them perfect for desert habitats.
- The Amazon Rainforest is known as the "lungs of the Earth" as it produces a large amount of our oxygen.
- Coral reefs are often called the "rainforests of the sea" because they are home to many different species.
- The Arctic is a cold habitat that is home to animals such as polar bears and seals, who have thick fur and blubber to keep warm

Key Knowledge and Skills

Identify and name different types of habitats (forest, desert, ocean, wetland).

Explain what plants and animals can be found in each habitat.

Understand the concept of ecosystems and predator-prey relationships.

Recognise the importance of habitats in providing for the needs of living things.

Describe how some animals adapt to their environments, such as through camouflage

Important Events and Concepts

- **Week 1:** Introduction to Habitats: Understanding what a habitat is and the different types of habitats in our world (land, water, air).
- **Week 2:** Exploring Terrestrial Habitats: Focusing on forests, deserts, and grasslands. Activities on identifying plants and animals in these habitats.
- **Week 3:** Exploring Aquatic Habitats: Understanding rivers, lakes, and oceans. Learning about marine life and freshwater ecosystems.
- **Week 4:** Relationships in Ecosystems: Discussing food chains and the roles of predators and prey. How animals adapt to their environments.
- **Week 5:** Biodiversity in Habitats: Exploring the importance of different species and how they contribute to their ecosystems.
- **Week 6:** Conservation Awareness: Learning about protecting habitats and maintaining biodiversity.

By the end of Reception children will:

Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants; • Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class; • Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.

Key Vocabulary	
habitat	The place where a plant or animal lives. It provides everything they need to survive.
Forest	A large area covered chiefly with trees and undergrowth.
Desert	A very hot and dry place where few plants and animals live.
ocean	A large body of saltwater that covers most of the Earth.
camouflage	When an animal has colours or patterns that help it blend in with its environment.
Prey	An animal that is hunted and eaten by another animal.



Linking Thinking Across Our Learning Journey						
Early Years	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Year Six
Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants. Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.		Identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited.		Recognise that living things (including those in the locality) can be grouped in a variety of ways. Explore and use classification keys to help group, identify and name a variety of living things in their local and wider environment.	Describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.	Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including microorganisms, plants and animals.