

# Science



## Living Things and their Environments



- ◇ A habitat is the name given to a place where plants or animals live.
- ◇ In a woodland habitat we might see: oak trees, ferns, mosses, beetles, foxes and squirrels.
- ◇ In a desert habitat we might see: camels, scorpions, rattlesnakes, cacti and tumbleweed.
- ◇ Lots of animals and plants can be found in rainforest habitats.
- ◇ Some animals and plants that might be found in rain forests are banana trees, orchids, rubber trees, monkeys, parrots and frogs.
- ◇ Rainforests are hot and wet.
- ◇ Meadows are grassy fields that are not managed by people. There are very few, or no trees growing in meadows. Plants and animals that can be found in meadows include: tall grass, dandelions, nettles, buttercups, butterflies, worms, beetles and ants.
- ◇ Animals that live in underground habitats include badgers, moles, foxes, rabbits and worms.
- ◇ Animals have adapted to living underground.
- ◇ Desert habitats are very dry. Plants and animals living in deserts have adapted to survive. Some deserts are very hot, but others can be cold.
- ◇ A food chain describes 'who eats what' within a habitat.
- ◇ Green plants make their own food, we call these plants producers.
- ◇ Animals who eat plants, or other animals, are called consumers.
- ◇ River habitats are home to many different insects, fish and mammals. Animals that live in river habitats include: dragonflies, salmon and otters.
- ◇ Rivers rely on a supply of fresh water.
- ◇ Many plants and animals in oceans are connected through a food chain.
- ◇ Scientists do not know everything about deep ocean habitats as it is very difficult to travel so deep in the ocean.
- ◇ Animals that live in the deep ocean have adapted to living in the dark, for example, by having very large eyes.
- ◇ There is very little light in deep ocean habitats, so animals must get their energy from heat or from other dead animals.
- ◇ Humans can damage habitats in different ways.
- ◇ Pollution, including oil spills, can damage habitats.
- ◇ When humans clear land for building work, they can destroy habitats.

### Key Vocabulary

**Humid:** a high level of water vapour in the air.

**Camouflage:** to hide or disguise the presence of something.

**Tropical:** The climate of the tropical zone—hot and humid.

**Fern:** a plant that does not have seeds or flowers.

**Moss:** a small flowerless green plant that does not have true roots.