

What Are Some Adaptations to Life on Land?

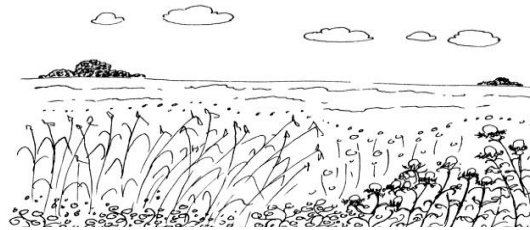
Science Words

Say each word quietly to yourself. Then read the meaning.

Read the tip to help you remember.

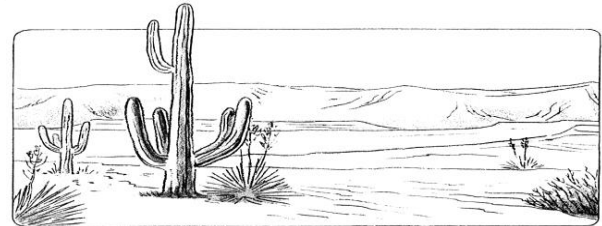
grassland [GRAS•land] a habitat in which grasses are the main plant life

Grassland is a compound word made up of the smaller words *grass* and *land*. The small words tell about the meaning of the compound word. *Grassland* is land covered mostly with grass.



desert [DEHZ•ert] a habitat that receives very little rain

Desert and *dry* begin with the same sound. A *desert* is a dry place.



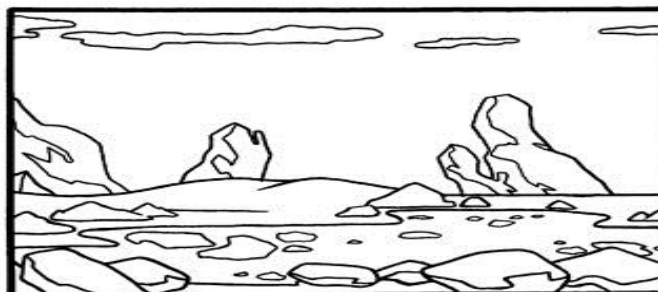
taiga [TY•guh] a far northern habitat with very cold winters, and short warm summers

Taiga and *tropical* begin with the same sound, but they describe very different places. A tropical rain forest is hot all year. The *taiga* is cold for much of the year.



polar [POH•ler] habitats that are near the North and South Pole

Big, white polar bears live near the North Pole, one of two *polar* habitats on Earth.



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Science Concepts

Read the Ideas more than once. Do your best to remember them.

1. Temperate forests have warm summers and cold winters.
2. Most trees in temperate forests lose their leaves in fall.
3. Tropical rain forests are warm and rainy all year.
4. Plants on the floor of tropical rain forests are adapted to low light.
5. Grasslands receive less rain than forests, which is why few trees grow there.
6. Energy stored in the large roots of the grasses helps them grow back quickly after a fire.
7. A desert gets very little rain, which makes it hard for living things to survive.
8. Cactuses and other desert plants have thick bodies and waxy leaves that store water.
9. Pine trees and other evergreens are adapted to the cold taiga habitat.
10. Polar habitats near the North and South Pole have winter-like conditions all year long.