

Teacher Lesson 8: Animal Habitats

Next Generation Science Standard

Grade 3. Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

3-LS4-3. Construct an argument with evidence that in a particular habitat some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all. [Clarification Statement: Examples of evidence could include needs and characteristics of the organisms and habitats involved. The organisms and their habitat make up a system in which the parts depend on each other.]

Talk with your students about the different habitats in which animals live.

Have them name some animals that live in these 5 major animal habitats:

- forests
- grasslands (fields, meadows, pastures, etc.)
- deserts
- mountains or polar regions
- aquatic (lakes and oceans)

What makes these animals well-suited to their habitats?

Could they live successfully in a different type of habitat? Why or why not?

Think of the animal's color and size, what they eat, and how they protect themselves.

What animals have shells? (turtles, crabs and lobsters, for example)

What do habitats need for animals to survive? They need food, water, somewhere to hide (cover), and space to live, all arranged to help the animal survive.

Take a look at examples of animals and the food they eat from different environments.