



Adaptation.

Our big question...

How does life survive?

Key questions.

Question	Answer
What is a vegetation region?	This is how scientists classify the types of land on the Earth. They look at the climate, soil and slope of the land to decide this. There are 5 types of vegetation region : forests, grassland, tundra, desert and ice sheet.
What is a desert?	A desert is any place which is very dry - it gets less than 25cm of rainfall per year.
Is a desert sandy?	Some deserts have sand, but others are made up of rocks, gravel, mountains, ice or salt! What deserts have in common is that they are all arid.
Are deserts hot?	Some deserts are very hot with temperatures up to 54°C, but some are very cold in the winter or cold all year round.
Are deserts empty?	Although deserts can be quite barren, they can also be home to a huge variety of plants and animals which have adapted to the extreme temperatures.
What is the largest desert in the world?	Almost all of the continent of Antarctica is made up of desert. Even though there is lots of water, because it is frozen to ice, there is little available for plants and animals.
Which animals can survive in polar regions?	There are many different species of seal and penguin, as well as Orcas and Blue Whales in Antarctica. In the Arctic, you can find polar bears, walrus, foxes and the Arctic Hare.

Location of some of the world's largest deserts.



Key vocabulary.

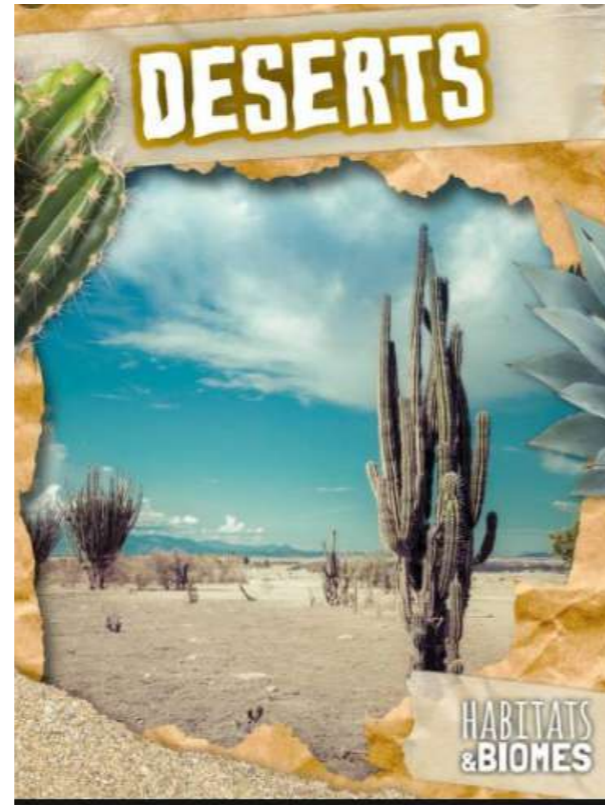
Word	Definition
Adaptation	The way something changes to suit something.
Evolution	The way something gradually develops and makes changes over time.
Inheritance	Passing on a characteristic (such as hair colour) from one generation to the next.
Generation	A group of people or animals born and living around the same time.
Arid	A climate which has little or no rain.
Tundra	A vegetation region which is cold with very few plants and animals.
Fossil	The remains of a prehistoric plant or animal which has been preserved in a rock.

Adaptations of a Polar Bear.

- They are strong swimmers which helps them to navigate the strong currents within the ocean.
- Small bumps on their footpads help them grip the ice.
- Their fur reflects light, helping them to blend in with their snowy surroundings.
- Their skin is black, helping them to absorb heat.
- Their claws are long, thick, curved and strong to attack prey.
- Their bodies are designed to be lined with a cozy layer of fat, which can be up to 3.4 inches thick. This fat not only helps polar bears keep warm, but acts as an energy store for slow hunting periods.



Our books...



Our skills...

By the end of the half term we will...

- Be able to identify different vegetation regions and deserts from around the globe
- Understand how animals adapt to harsh environments
- Look at evolution and how fossils can help us to see the evolutionary stages
- Build our knowledge on how places can have such differing climates



Our questions of the week...

How have animals adapted over time?

What can we identify in the environments we have explored?

Is a desert always hot?

How can we show adaptation using technology?

How do cartographers show different vegetation regions?

Why are 't all deserts the same?



Theme Share...

We will be using coding to create our very own computer games and sharing pictures of these on class dojo..



Try this at home!

Try this fun geography guessing game. Who will be triumphant?

