

BLINK AT HOME

Building Landforms

What does the land look like around the world?

Skills to Develop

- + Science content knowledge
- + Fine motor skills
- + Creative thinking

Materials

- + Habitat photos [PDF]
- + Animal toys
- + Play dough
- + Building materials: blocks, popsicle sticks, LEGOS, etc.
- + Bag

WHAT TO DO

During the Learning Activity

1. Place your animal toys in a bag. Invite your child to reach inside without looking and choose one animal from inside the bag.
2. Discuss what they know about this animal and where it lives. Ask: *what kind of food does it eat? Where does it live? What else do you know about this animal?*
3. Invite your child to choose which habitat the animal might live in by looking at the habitat photos [PDF]. Ask: *what do you know about this habitat? What other animals live here? What plants grow here? What does the land look like here?*
4. Invite your child to create this habitat out of play dough and other building materials, such as blocks, popsicle sticks, or LEGOs. Encourage them to add more details about the habitat, such as including other animals or adding specific land features.
5. When they are done building one habitat, invite your child to choose another animal and repeat the process to create other types of habitats.

Extend the Fun

- + Focus on creating the different landscapes in Alaska.
- + Look at photos of landforms in Alaska and recreate them using play dough and other building materials.

BLINK: HABITATS

Habitat photos: Print and use



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TEMPERATE FOREST

Temperate forests have lots of trees, both trees that lose their leaves and trees that have green all year round. Most temperate forests get between 30 and 60 inches of water every year, enough to grow big trees. The animals that live in temperate forests have to live in warmer summer weather and colder winter weather.

BLINK: HABITATS

Habitat photos: Print and use



"Dreaming Lush Green Grass and Spring Sunsets" by DCSL is licensed with CC BY-NC 2.0. To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/2.0/>

FRESH WATER

There are lots of different types of fresh water, including ponds, swamps, streams, rivers, and lakes. These bodies of water are all fresh water, rather than salt water like the ocean. Many different types of animals live in fresh water habitats around the world.

BLINK: HABITATS

Habitat photos: Print and use



"A woman's heart is a deep ocean of secrets" by Chrismatos 90% OFF, sorry is licensed with CC BY 2.0. To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>

OCEAN

Ocean habitats consist of salt water. Oceans cover most of the Earth. Some animals that live in the ocean can breathe water, like fish. Other ocean animals must come to the surface to breathe air, like a whale.

BLINK: HABITATS

Habitat photos: Print and use



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POLAR

The polar habitats surround the North Pole and the South Pole. Some parts of this habitat have ice and snow all year round, and in other parts the snow and ice melt during the summer and freeze during the winter. There are no large trees because the ground stays frozen, but there are lots of grasses.

BLINK: HABITATS

Habitat photos: Print and use



"Scenic Alaska Mountains" by Accretion Disc is licensed with CC BY 2.0. To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>

MOUNTAINS

The higher you go up a mountain, the colder it gets. This means that some of the plants and animals that live near the bottom of the mountain cannot live near the top of the mountain. Many animals that live in the mountains are good at climbing and staying warm.

BLINK: HABITATS

Habitat photos: Print and use



"Sunset in the Mojave Desert" by steveberardi is licensed with CC BY-NC-SA 2.0. To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/2.0/>

DESERT

Deserts get very little rain, less than 10 inches a year. They are the driest places in the world. Plants and animals in the desert must be really good at saving their water for a long time. Many animals have ways to stay warm during the night and cool during the day. Some animals remain underground during the hot day and only emerge onto the ground when it is much cooler at night.

BLINK: HABITATS

Habitat photos: Print and use



"Rainforest" by WanderingSolesPhotography is licensed with CC BY 2.0. To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>

RAINFOREST

Rainforests receive the most rainfall each year, at least 80 inches. Trees in the rainforest grow very tall, as much as 200 feet. This makes four layers within the rainforest, with different animals living at different heights among the trees.

BLINK: HABITATS

Habitat photos: Print and use



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GRASSLANDS

There are different names for grasslands around the world, including savanna, steppe, prairies, veldts, and rangelands. Grasslands are often found between the deserts and the mountains. These areas are pretty dry, and many animals must travel to find water.