

Shared Spaces

Glossary:

Habitat: the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism.

Desert habitat: Deserts are places that don't get much rain, and are very dry. Because deserts don't have much water, animals that live in the desert are able to conserve water and keep their body temperature at the right level.

Meadow habitat: Meadows are an essential habitat for many types of insect. Insects like bees are essential for the pollination of meadow and garden flowers, as well as many of our vegetables and fruits.

Woodland habitats: woodlands are a middle ground between grassland and forest. The UK's woodlands are rich and diverse, supporting more invertebrates than any other habitat.

Grassland habitats: these are places that receive more rain than deserts but less precipitation than forests. Most of the plants here are grasses, which don't need as much water as forest vegetation.

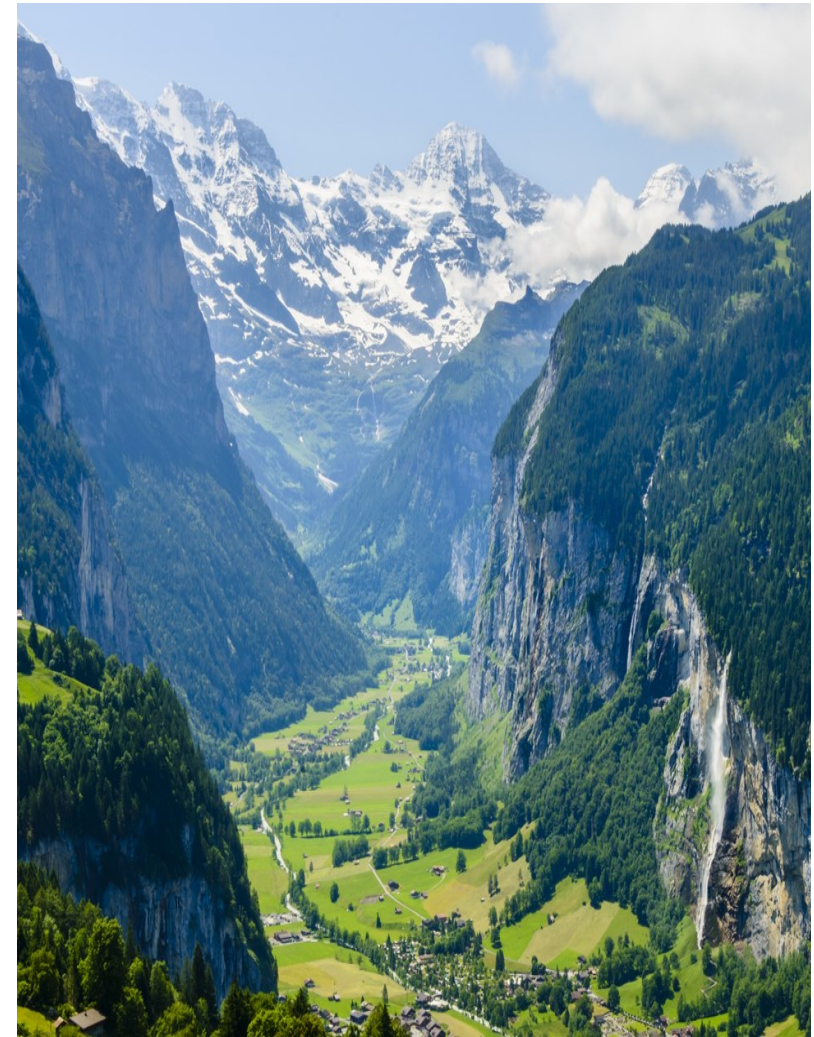
Forest habitats: Forests habitat for a vast array of plants and animals. They are home to 80% of the world's biodiversity. These ecosystems are complex webs of organisms that include plants, animals, fungi and bacteria.

Seashore habitats: Habitats include areas of landslips, beaches with sand, shingle and rock, cliffs, coastal lagoons, islands, muddy estuaries, salt marshes, and underwater coastal zones .

Ocean habitats: Marine habitats are habitats that support marine life. Marine life depends on the salt water in the sea and varies hugely around the world. Temperature and food chains mean that different species of animal flourish in different ocean habitat around the world.

Sustainability: maintaining natural resources in order to keep an ecological balance and protect plants and animals.

Altitude: like **elevation**, altitude is the distance above sea level. Areas are often considered "high-altitude" if they reach at least 8,000 feet into the atmosphere.



In this topic, we will be comparing the size, habitats, age and sustainability of national parks and protected areas all around the world!

We will also map them worldwide using our classroom display.



Yellowstone and Yosemite National Parks— North America

Habitat—Meadow and Grassland

Yosemite National Park is in California. It's famed for its giant, sequoia trees and granite cliffs. Yellowstone features canyons, alpine rivers, forests, hot springs and geysers. It's also home to hundreds of animal species, including bears, wolves, bison, elk and antelope.



Jim Corbett and Gunung Mulu National Parks—Asia

Habitat—Forest and Woodland

Jim Corbett National Park is a forested wildlife sanctuary in northern India. It is home to many animals, including Bengal tigers, leopards and elephants, along with hundreds of species of birds. Gunung Mulu National Park is a protected rainforest in Malaysian Borneo. It's known for its dramatic peaks and caves.



Yasuni and Mamiraua National Parks—South America

Habitat—Forest

The Yasuni and Mamiraua National Parks are protected areas of the Amazon Rainforest that spans much of South America. It is home to some of the most diverse range of animals and plants in the world as well as indigenous tribes that still live deep within the jungles.



Norfolk Broads and The Peak District—United Kingdom

Habitat—Meadow, Grassland and Woodland

The Norfolk broads are a network of mostly navigable rivers and lakes in the English counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. The lakes, known as broads, were formed by the flooding of peat workings. The Peak District National Park became the first national park in the United Kingdom in 1951.



Kruger and Etosha National Parks—South Africa

Habitat—Desert and Grassland

Kruger and Etosha National Parks, in South Africa are full of animals, such as lions, leopards, rhinos, elephants and buffalos. Hundreds of other mammals make their home here, as do bird species such as vultures, eagles and storks. Mountains, bush plains and tropical forests are all part of the landscape.



Great Barrier Reef and Abel Tasman National Parks —Oceania

Habitat—Seashore and Ocean

The Great Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef system composed of over 2,900 reefs and 900 islands. Within this vast expanse are a unique range of ecological communities, habitats and species – all of which make the Reef one of the most complex natural ecosystems in the world.