

Nova's Guide to Incredible Habitats

Step into the wild: Discover where life thrives and how we protect our planet's homes!

- A habitat is the natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism, providing them with food, water, and shelter.
- Classification keys help scientists identify living things by observing their physical characteristics and sorting them into groups based on shared features.
- Adaptation is the process where living things develop special features, such as thick fur for cold climates or camouflage for hiding, to help them survive in their specific environment.
- Environmental changes, such as pollution or the clearing of forests, can disrupt a habitat, making it difficult for the species living there to find the resources they need to survive.
- Conservation is the careful protection and management of habitats to ensure that biodiversity—the variety of all living things—is maintained for future generations.

Did you know? Did you know? Even your own back garden is a bustling ecosystem! Beneath a single fallen log, you might find a micro-habitat supporting woodlice, beetles, and fungi, all working together to recycle nutrients back into the soil.

Key vocabulary: Environment · Classification · Ecosystem · Adaptation · Biodiversity · Conservation · Micro-habitat