

# Nova's Habitat Explorer Flashcards

*Learning objective: To identify and describe the characteristics of different habitats and explain how living things are adapted to their environments.*

Read the front of the card to test your knowledge of habitats. Turn the card over (or scroll down) to reveal the answer. Use these to quiz a partner and see how many you can master!

## Habitat

A natural home or environment where a plant or animal lives, grows, and thrives.

## Adaptation

A special feature or behavior that helps a living thing survive in its specific habitat.

## What is a microhabitat?

A very small, specific area within a larger habitat that provides unique conditions for small creatures, such as a log or under a rock.

## Producer

A living thing, usually a plant, that makes its own food using energy from the sun.

## Consumer

A living thing that eats plants or other animals for energy.

## Vertebrate

An animal that possesses a backbone or spinal column.

## Invertebrate

An animal that does not have a backbone, such as an insect, snail, or worm.

## Environment

The surroundings or conditions in which a plant or animal lives, including both living and non-living factors.

## Give an example of an adaptation of a polar bear.

A thick layer of blubber and dense fur to keep warm in freezing temperatures.

## What does a food chain show?

The transfer of energy from one organism to another as one eats the next.

## Why are plants vital to a habitat?

They are primary producers that create the foundation of the food chain and provide oxygen and shelter.

## True or False: All habitats stay the same all year round.

False. Habitats change due to seasons, weather, and human impact.