

Lizards are a group of 3,800 scaly skinned reptiles, varying from a few centimetres long to metres long East Indian Lizard. Lizards cannot control their body temperature, and so they rely on sunshine for warmth. That is why they live in warm climates and bask in the sun for hours each day. Below are given the descriptions of a few lizards.

Identify them and write their names.



This is the world's smallest lizard. It is only 18 mm long. People say that this lizard's sound brings good luck.

Gecko



This lizard has no legs. Its tail may break off to fool attackers. It later grows another one.

Glass lizard



This lizard can squirt a jet of blood from its eyes as far as 1 metre to put off attackers.

Horned lizard



This lizard has a ruff around its neck. To put off attackers, it can puff up its ruff to make itself look three or four times bigger.

Australian Frilled lizard



This is the world's fastest lizard. It can run at a speed of 30 km per hour. It is found mainly in the USA.

Six-lined Race Runner



This lizard is also known as the Jesus Christ lizard because it can walk on water.

Basilisk lizard

Know More

Flying dragon is a kind of lizard that can fly from trees. When it flies, it spreads out a fold of its skin along its body sides.



Gecko
Six-lined race runner
Basilisk lizard

Horned lizard
Glass lizard
Australian frilled lizard



Forests are the natural wealth of a country.

Read about some of the world famous forests, and name them using the Help Box.

1. It has been often described "Lungs of our Planet," because 20% of the world's oxygen is produced by this forest. This is believed to be home to more than half of the world's species of flora and fauna.



2. This is one of the finest and most impressive remaining examples of temperate rainforest in the United States. The trees there may be 1000 years old, and every surface of the tree is covered with its own plant life, which makes it an individual small microcosm.

3. Famous for its historical association with the legend of Robin Hood, today it is a royal forest in Nottinghamshire and has a status of National Nature Reserve.

4. It is the most unique rainforest in Australia and also the most diverse in the world. This forest contains 18% of the bird species of Australia, 30% of the marsupial, reptile and frog species, 65% of the Australian's butterfly and bat species, along with more than 12,000 species of insects.

5. Stretching 500 miles along the south-east coast of Alaska, it is the largest national forest in the United States. This is certainly an extremely rich ecosystem, containing more organic matter than any other, which also includes tropical jungles and lush forests of seaweed.

6. Nestled between the Pacific Ocean and high Alpine reaches, it is one of the largest and most colossal remaining tracts of unspoiled temperate rainforest left in the whole world.

7. It is located in Sri Lanka and declared a UNESCO World Natural Heritage site. It is the last viable area of primary tropical rainforest of the country and is also one of the whole world.

8. It is the home for globally endangered species including the Royal Bengal Tigers, the rare White Tiger, Ganges and Irrawaddy dolphins, Estuarine crocodiles and the critically endangered River Terrapin (Batagur). This forest is located in West Bengal that stretches about 10,000 square kilometers and is one of the largest deltas in the world.



Hoh Rainforest
Amazon Rainforest
Tongass National Forest

Great Bear Rainforest
Daintree Forest
Sherwood Forest

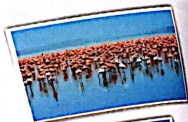
Sundarban National Forest
Sinharaja Forest Reserve





A habitat is a place where plants and animals live. They are adapted to the conditions of the habitats in which they live. **Read the clues given below and name the habitat.**

1. Lake Nakuru in Kenya there is one of the world's famous Soda lakes. Few animals can survive in the salty water, but flamingoes have adapted well and gather at this lake in thousands.
2. Madagascar is a large island of the south-eastern coast of Africa. It was cut off from the mainland more than 150 million years ago. It is the only place where lemurs can be found.
3. Serengeti is a vast area of grassland or Savanna spanning over 18,600 miles, in Tanzania, east Africa. For years the elephants of this place were hunted for their ivory tusks.
4. The Everglades is a vast wilderness of swamp and marshland in southern Florida. Much of the land here, is covered with saw grass, which grows to a height of 9 to 15 ft. There are many hummocks or small fertile raised areas, on which palms, pine trees, cypresses, and other trees and shrubs can grow.
5. The Amazon Rainforest is the world's largest tropical rainforest, spanning nine South American countries. It's renowned for its rich biodiversity and essential role in maintaining the Earth's climate. However, it faces serious threats from activities like deforestation and mining, making conservation efforts vital to its survival.
6. The Galapagos island, which lie 620 miles off the west coast of South America, provide some amazing sights that can't be seen anywhere else in the world. There are iguanas basking in the sun and tortoises strong enough to carry a man. These were originally formed by volcanoes, some of which are still active.



Know More



The Great Barrier Reef is the world's biggest single structure made by living organisms that can be seen from outer space.



Everglades
Galapagos Islands
Amazon Rainforest

Madagascar
Lake Nakuru
Serengeti



Birds of prey have certain distinct features which make them different from other birds. They have a sharp beak which is often used to tear off pieces of food and their feet may be clawed.

Read the clues given below and try to name the birds of prey. Use the Help Box.

- I am a bird of prey with a strong, hooked beak and powerful grasping claws, or talons. My wings are usually rectangular in shape. I soar around the skies searching for animals on which to prey. Who am I? Eagle
- I usually hunt by flying after the prey at great speed. My long, narrow wings are built for fast flight. The most unusual of my kind is the South American caracara. It spends most of its life running on the ground. Who am I? Falcon
- I don't catch food, rather I swoop down to feed on dead animals. I often soar aloft on my huge wings, keeping a watchful eye for food below. If I spot a dead animal, I have to wait until other animals, such as hyenas have had their fill before I can have my share. Who am I? Vulture
- I have a lighter body as compared to others of my family. I can soar about on thinner, more pointed wings and I have forked tails. Red, Black, Everglade and square-tailed are different names of my specie. Who am I? Kite
- I am a small bird of prey and I hover above the ground looking for prey moving below. I usually feed on insects, worms, small rodents, lizards and other birds. Who am I? Kestrel
- I am the largest member of the crow family. I nests on cliffs and in trees where I feed on young seabirds and small mammals. I also glide in the sky looking for carrion to eat on the ground below. Who am I? Raven



Know More



Owl flies almost silently due to its special feather structure that reduces turbulence and have particularly a cute hearing.



Kestrel
Raven

Falcon
Eagle

Kite
Vulture

SELF EVALUATION-3

A. Choose the correct option.

- Which is the world's largest poisonous snake?
(a) Cobra (b) Viper (c) Black Mamba
- Which animal never drinks water and gets water from the animals that it eats?
(a) Gerbil (b) Gila Monster (c) Jerboa
- Which lizard squirts a jet of blood from its eyes to its attacker?
(a) Tuatara (b) Florida worm lizard (c) Horned lizard
- Which forest is often described as the "Lungs of our Planet"?
(a) Hoh Rainforest (b) Amazon Rainforest (c) Daintree forest
- Which is the largest member of the crow family?
(a) Kestrel (b) Raven (c) Falcon

B. Fill in the blanks.

- Madagascar is a large island of the south-eastern coast of Africa.
- Basilisk lizard lizard is known as the Jesus Christ lizard.
- The leaves of Nasaka plant are helpful in curing bronchitis.
- The tufted titmouse is not a mouse but it is a bird.
- Box Jellyfish is a bell-shaped sea creature with long tentacles covered with stinging cells.
- Sand Grouse is a bird that flies hundreds of kilometers every night to reach water pools.

C. Match the columns.

COLUMN A

- Fennel
- Garlic
- Cardamom
- Cloves
- Cinnamon

COLUMN B

- more valuable than gold.
- hard angular seeds
- known as saunf
- consisting many small bulblets called 'cloves'
- dried buds of a large green tree

D. Answer in one word.

- These plants are rich in Vitamin C. Amla
- The leaves of this tree cure skin diseases. neem
- This bird don't catch food but feed on dead animals. Skinkhaya Forest Reserve
- This forest is located in Sri Lanka and declared a UNESCO World Natural Heritage site. Shinhaya Forest Reserve
- This Australian snake lives in a termites' nest and feeds on termites. Blind Snake

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