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STUDY NOTES

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CLASS- VI (All Section)

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<u>Science</u>

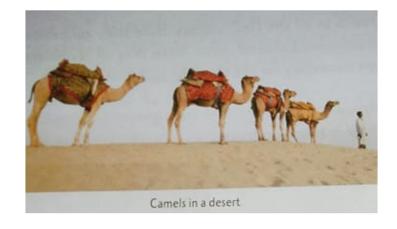
CHAPTER: 7 Life around us

Today's Topic: Deserts

Deserts:

Deserts are extremely dry places, which get very hot during the day and very cold during the night. As discussed earlier, a camel is well adapted to living in a desert as are cacti.

There are other animals and plants found in deserts that have also adapted to desert life. Desert animals, such as rats and snakes burrow deep in the sand during the day to stay away from the intense daytime heat. These animals come out at night, when it is cooler.



Plants too, have adapted to survive in the harsh conditions of the hot deserts. Most desert plants have modified leaves in the form of spines. This helps to prevent the loss of water through **transpiration.**

Photosynthesis in these plants is usually carried out in the stems, which are covered with a thick waxy layer that helps retain water. Most desert plants have roots that go very deep into the soil for absorbing water.

Temperate or cold deserts are seen in the temperate regions at higher altitudes. These deserts, also known as polar deserts, are covered in snow and have extremely cold temperatures throughout the year.

The Arctic and Antarctic regions are cold deserts. Penguins live in Antarctica and swim in the icy cold waters or live on snow-covered land. Blue whales are found in colder areas. Few plants grow in cold deserts and include mosses, grasses and herbs.

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