

Deserts: Hot or Cold?

A Cross-Curricular Unit

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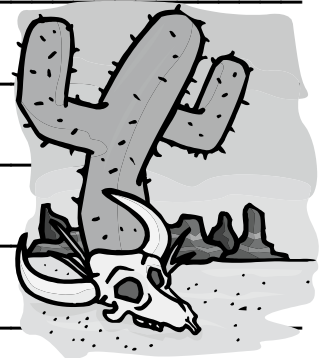
Fill in the chart below with facts from the article.

Hot Deserts	Cold Deserts
Soil:	Soil:
Temperatures:	Temperatures:
Animals:	Animals:
Plants:	Plants:

Tell Your Own Story



Write a poem about an animal or plant that lives in the desert. Shape your poem so that it looks like that creature or plant. For example, a tall, skinny poem could be about a cactus. _____



Vocabulary Builder



Compound words are two words put together to create new meanings. “Under the ground” becomes the compound word “underground”. Compound words can be put together with or without a hyphen. They can also be written as two separate words. Use a dictionary to check the words below. If they are not written correctly, write the correct form in the blank.

1. rattle snakes _____
2. down-pour _____
3. watertight _____
4. some-times _____
5. merry-go-round _____

Figure it Out!



Arrange the following list of deserts according to size. Make the largest desert #1.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| _____ Atacama, South America | 54,000 square miles |
| _____ Gobi, China and Mongolia | 450,000 square miles |
| _____ Antarctica | 5,500,000 square miles |
| _____ Thar, India and Pakistan | 77,000 square miles |
| _____ Kalahari, Southwestern Africa | 200,000 square miles |
| _____ Sahara, Northern Africa | 3,500,000 square miles |

Map Moments



Look at a world map to find the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn. Most of the world’s deserts are located along these imaginary lines that are north and south of the Equator. Find the following deserts and match them to the correct continent.

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| _____ 1. Chihuahuan | A. Africa |
| _____ 2. Atacama | B. Australia |
| _____ 3. Namib | C. China |
| _____ 4. Takla Makan | D. North America |
| _____ 5. Great Sandy | E. South America |

