Desert Wildlife

A desert is a kind of habitat. Deserts are dry places that get very little rain. Deserts are hot during the day but cool at night. Many desert animals only come out to eat as it starts to get dark. Most desert animals do not need very much water.



Desert animals have special features that help them survive. A scorpion has a hard shell that helps keep water inside its body.



Some desert animals hunt other animals. Hawks might eat snakes and small birds.

Mammals like coyotes hunt rabbits and mice at night.

Meerkats live and hunt in gangs. They eat insects.
Their ears fold back when they dig to stop soil getting inside.

Kangaroo rats can live their whole lives without ever drinking. They get all the moisture they need

from seeds.

Did you know?

A perentie is a long lizard that lives in the desert in Australia. It likes to eat birds' eggs and small kangaroos. Perentie can live for up to 20 years.

<u>Friday – Reading Comprehension</u> <u>Desert Wildlife</u>

Read the text on the next page and answer the questions.

1. What habitat is the information text about?
2. Find two adjectives that are used to describe the desert.
3. What animals does a hawk like to eat?
4. Which adjective describes a scorpion's shell?
5. Why do meerkats fold back their ears when they dig?
6. Where to kangaroo rats get moisture from?
7. How many years can a perentie live up to?
8. Why do a lot of desert animals only come out at night?