



Habitats

Biological Sciences



Written for the Australian Curriculum: Science

Sienna Osborne | Randall Hall | Richard John

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM: SCIENCE

Strand:	Science Understanding
Sub-strand:	Biological Sciences
Descriptor:	Living things live in places where their needs are met

SCIENCE WORDS

Animals, habitat, food, water, shelter, oceans, rainforests, rivers, mountains, sharks, whales, fish, clown fish, sea anemone, predators, crabs, birds, snakes, frogs, bush, kangaroos, koalas, emus, billabong, caterpillars, spiders, bees

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OR CAREGIVER

Helping your child learn to read is a rewarding and enjoyable experience for both you and your child. Here are some ways you can help your child with their reading.

BEFORE READING

- Introduce the book; read the title and look at the picture on the front cover. Ask what the book might be about. Ask your child if they know about habitats.
- Look through the book and talk about the pictures. Do they notice any difference between the different animals and different habitats?
- Refer to the science words. Discuss each word and its meaning. These words will appear in the book.

DURING READING

- At this level, your child should attempt to read their home reader on their own. There may be words they are unsure of. Encourage them to break these words down into their individual sounds, blending them from left to right.
- Stop your child on the pages where Suzie the Scientist appears. Discuss the science vocabulary and interesting information presented.

SCIENCE CONCEPTS IN THIS BOOK

A habitat is a particular ecological or environmental area in which a plant or animal exists. Habitats can exist in any size—from a small seaside rock-pool or decaying log on the forest floor up to the size of the Great Barrier Reef. Habitats contain both living organisms and non-living objects and can contain anywhere from just a few species to thousands of them, all co-existing in the same space.

The nature of a habitat is dictated by a number of factors including the physical geography, the climate and the types of plants that grow there. Common habitats in Australia include rainforests, coral reefs, bushland and deserts. Your garden is also a habitat to a large number of insects and other plants and animals.

Early in the *Australian Curriculum: Science* students are introduced to habitats as places where the needs of plants and animals are met, especially with respect to the provision of food, water and shelter.



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Animals live in places where their needs are met.

This place is their habitat.



Habitats can be as big as the oceans or as small as a rock pool.



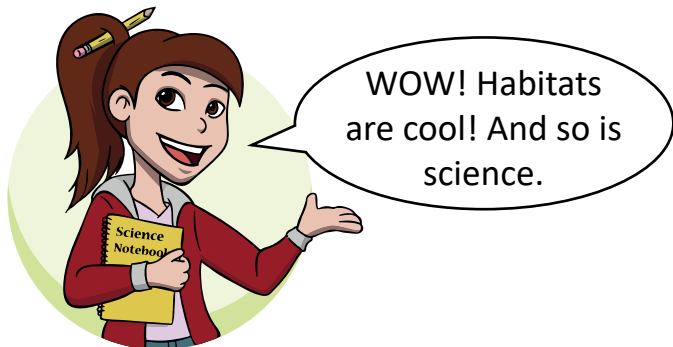
Habitats have food, water and shelter for animals.

Animals need these things to live.



Your home is your habitat.

It has everything you need;
food, water and shelter.



AFTER READING

Ask your child what the book was about and encourage them to re-tell it in the order in which it appeared.

Discuss the following with your child to assist in understanding the content of the book:

- What things do animals need from their habitats?
- Why do clown fish live in sea anemones?
- Do you think different plants have different habitats?
- What is your favourite animal habitat?

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In this book **Suzie the Scientist** helps us learn about **habitats**—the area where plants and animals live. We learn that habitats are places where animals get the things they need to live, including food, water and shelter. **Suzie** also shows us lots of different habitats including oceans, forests, deserts, bushlands and even your own back yard.

Australian Curriculum: All books in the 'Suzie the Scientist' series are written for the *Australian Curriculum: Science* and align directly to what children learn in the classroom. This book addresses the learning outcome "Living things live in places where their needs are met" from the Biological Sciences sub-strand.



WOW! Habitats are cool! And so is science.

PARENTS, READ ALONG WITH SUZIE!

Throughout this book *Suzie the Scientist* tells us interesting scientific facts. Use these pages to encourage further interest and discussion about **habitats** with your child.

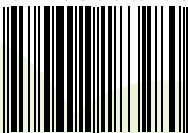
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