Wednesday 12th January 2021

W.A.L.T: To magpie words to describe the Savannah.

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W.A.L.T: To listen/read the text.
To highlight and record any good examples of words to describe the savannah. (technical vocabulary or adjectives)
To find out the meaning of any unknown words.

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Savannah

Jan 12-08:54



A savannah is a rolling grassland scattered with shrubs and isolated trees. Not enough rain falls on a savannah to support forests.

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Savannahs are also known as tropical grasslands. They are found in a wide band on either side of the equator on the edges of tropical rainforests.

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Savannahs have warm temperature year round. There are actually two very different seasons in a savannah; a very long dry season (winter), and a very wet season (summer).

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In the dry season only an average of about 10 cm of rain falls. Between December and February no rain will fall at all. Oddly enough, it is actually a little cooler during this dry season. But don't expect sweater weather; it is still around 70° F/ 21°C.

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In the summer there is lots of rain. In Africa the monsoon rains begin in May. An average of 38 to 63 cm of rain falls during this time. It gets hot and very humid during the rainy season. Every day the hot, humid air rises off the ground and collides with cooler air above and turns into rain. In the afternoons in the summer, the rains pour down for hours. African savannahs have large herds of grazing and browsing hoofed animals. Each animal has a specialised eating habit that reduces competition for food.

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There are several different types of savannah around the world. The savannahs we are most familiar with are the East African savannah covered with acacia (pronounced uh-kei-shuh) trees. The Serengeti Plains of Tanzania are some of the most well-known. Here animals like lions, zebras, elephants, and giraffes and many types of ungulates (animals with hooves) graze and hunt.

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Many large grass-eating mammals (herbivores) can survive here because they can move around and eat the plentiful grasses. There are also lots of carnivores (meat eaters) who eat them in turn.

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