



Mar 17-12:33 PM



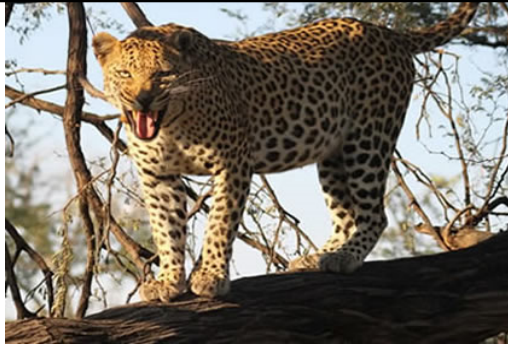
There is also a savanna in northern Australia. Eucalyptus trees take the place of acacias in the Australian savannah. There are many species of kangaroos in this savannah but not too much diversity of different animals.



Plants of the savannas are highly specialised to grow in this environment of long periods of drought. They have long tap roots that can reach the deep water table, thick bark to resist annual fires, trunks that can store water, and leaves that drop off during the winter to conserve water. The grasses have adaptations that discourage animals from grazing on them; some grasses are too sharp or bitter tasting for some animals, but not others, to eat. The side benefit of this is that every species of animal has something to eat. Different species will also eat different parts of the grass. Many grasses grow from the bottom up, so that the growth tissue doesn't get damaged by grazers.



Most of the animals on the savannah have long legs or wings to be able to go on long migrations. Many burrow under ground to avoid the heat or raise their young. The savannah is a perfect place for birds of prey like hawks and buzzards. The wide, open plain provides them with a clear view of their prey, hot air updrafts keep them soaring, and there is the occasional tree to rest on or nest in. Animals don't sweat to lose body heat, so they lose it through panting or through large areas of exposed skin, or ears, like those of the elephant.



The savannah has a large range of highly specialised plants and animals. They all depend on the each other to keep the environment in balance. There are over 40 different species of hoofed mammals that live on the savannahs of Africa. Up to 16 different species of browsers (those who eat leaves of trees) and grazers can coexist in one area. They do this by having their own food preferences, browsing/ grazing at different heights, time of day or year to use a given area, and different places to go during the dry season.



These different herbivores provide a wide range of food for carnivores, like lions, leopards, cheetahs, jackals and hyenas. Each species has its own preference, making it possible to live side by side and not be in competition for food.



In many parts of the savannahs of Africa people have started using it to graze their cattle and goats. They don't move around and soon the grasses are completely eaten up. With no vegetation, the savannah turns into a desert. Huge areas of savannah are lost to the Sahara desert every year because of overgrazing and farming.

Activity

To continue reading/listening to the text and recording any good examples of words we could use to describe the savannah. These can be recorded as a list, spider diagram etc.

I look forward to seeing what words you have collected.

Don't forget to make sure you achieve the WILF when completing your work and our non-negotiables.

*Neat handwriting

*Careful spellings



**NOT
NEGOTIABLE**

Any questions please message me on Class Dojos!

