

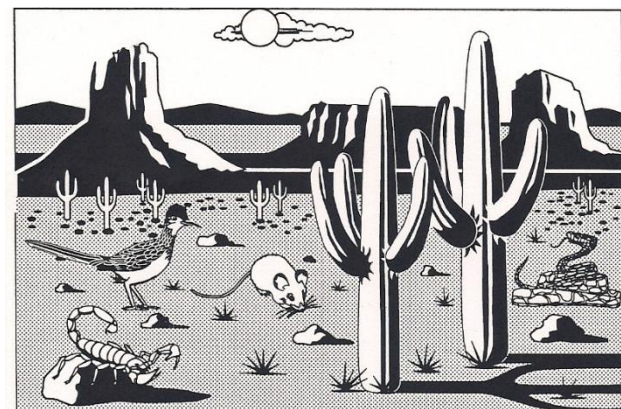
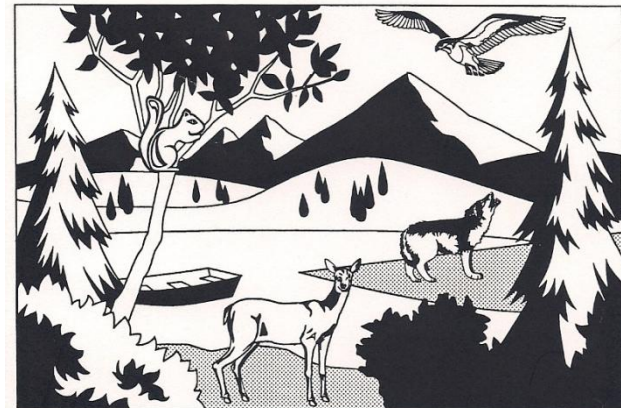
Name: _____

Date: _____

Different Habitats

Looking at the three habitats it is apparent that habitats can be very different. Habitats are affected or changed by many things. Below are six factors that can affect a habitat.

- Weather – The amount of rainfall, the temperature, and the type of weather.
- Ground Features – Is the land flat or are there mountains?
- Availability of Water – Are there many sources of water for plants and animals, or is the area a hot desert?
- Food Sources – plants need soil, sun and water. Animals need plants and other animals.
- Available Sunlight – The greater the amount of sunlight, the greater the number of plants and animals.
- Space – Is the habitat crowded or is there room for new plants and animals to expand?



If the water became polluted in the coastal area, what animal (or animals) would suffer the most? Why?

The fish would be the most directly affected because they spend all of their time in the water, and use it as their source of oxygen and food. However, all of the other animals would also be affected. This is because they either spend time in the water, eat the fish from the water, or eat the animals that eat the fish.

What would happen if the two top predators (hawk and wolf) were no longer in the forest?

If both the hawk and the wolf were removed from the habitat, then the population of all the other organisms would change. The deer and squirrel population would go really high because there is nothing to eat them. The plant population would decrease because there would be more eating them. Then, with fewer plants, the animals would start dieing off, creating a cycle.

If plant life died in the desert, what animal (or animals) would suffer the most? Why?

Initially the mouse would suffer the most, because it is a herbivore. However, in time all of the animals would be affected because there would be no energy for them. Once all the mice had died then the other animals would need to find new prey. Eventually there would be no prey and the predators would all either move out or die of starvation.

Fill in the chart based on the pictures. You may need to make some assumptions.

Factor	Habitat		
	Coastal	Forest	Desert
Weather	Rain, Cool,	Rain, Warm	No Rain, Hot
Amount of Water	Lots	Enough	Very Little
Number of Plants	Some	Many	Few
Amount of Sunlight	Lots	Varies	Lots
Availability of Space	Limited, depending on species	Crowded	Lots