



Lesson Plan: Did you Know... 3rd grade

Grade Level: 3

Subject: Life Science

Duration: 45–60 min

NGSS3-LS4-3: Construct an argument with evidence that in a particular habitat some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- **Describe** what a habitat provides for an organism, using grasslands, tropical rainforests, and polar coasts as examples.
- **Explain** why an organism such as a penguin survives well in one habitat but cannot survive in



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- **Tropical Rainforest:** A warm, wet habitat with heavy rainfall and many tall trees growing close together. So many different plants grow there that people use some of them to make medicines.
- **Food Chain:** The order in which living things eat one another to get energy. A food chain starts with a plant, and an animal at the top, such as a hawk, is not eaten by other animals.
- **Hemisphere:** One half of Earth, divided at the imaginary line called the equator. Wild penguins live only in the Southern Hemisphere and are never found at the North Pole.



Materials Needed: (all links are included in this PDF)

- Printed copies of the Did You Know? Study Guide
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide-science-grade-3-did-you-know-3rd-grade.pdf>)
- Practice Worksheet 0 (plants, animals, and ecosystems)
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-did-you-know-3rd-grade-0.pdf>)
- Practice Worksheet 1 (Earth, water, and food chains)
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-did-you-know-3rd-grade-1.pdf>)
- Practice Worksheet 2 (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-did-you-know-3rd-grade-2.pdf>)
- World map or globe with the equator and Southern Hemisphere clearly marked
- Photographs of three habitats: an open grassland, a tropical rainforest, and an Antarctic coast



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Step 2: Direct Instruction (15 minutes)

- Use the Study Guide's plant, animal, and ecosystem facts to define habitat and ecosystem, listing the food, water, and shelter each habitat supplies.
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide-science-grade-3-did-you-know-3rd-grade.pdf>)
- On the globe, trace the equator and sweep a hand across the Southern Hemisphere to show where wild penguins live, then point to the North Pole and explain that no wild penguins live there.



- Hold up the grassland and tropical rainforest photographs side by side and have students name one difference in rainfall, trees, and available food.

Step 3: Guided Practice (15 minutes)

- Work through the plant, animal, and ecosystem questions on Practice Worksheet 0 as a class, pausing on the penguin and grassland items to ask for evidence.
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-did-you-know-3rd-grade-0.pdf>)
- Order a grassland food chain together — grass, grasshopper, mouse, hawk — and ask what happens to the hawk if the grass dies during a drought.
- Place the cheetah, penguin, Goliath frog, and ladybug picture cards onto the habitat photograph where each would survive best, and have students state the evidence for each placement.

Step 4: Independent Practice (15 minutes)

- Students complete Practice Worksheet 1 individually, paying attention to the food chain and



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- Ask students to explain aloud, using the grassland as the example, why one habitat can support some organisms and not others.

💡 Differentiation Strategies

For advanced learners:

- Challenge students to use the worksheet facts to argue why the cheetah's speed suits an open grassland but would help it far less inside a dense tropical rainforest.



- Have students pick one 'Did You Know?' fact about a habitat and write a short argument about whether an animal from a different habitat could survive there.

For learners needing support:

- Provide a pre-labeled habitat mat showing grassland, rainforest, and Antarctic coast, each with small picture icons for food, water, and shelter, so students can lay animal cards directly onto the matching habitat.
- Pair students to read the Study Guide facts aloud together, and let them point to the globe rather than writing when explaining where penguins live.

Extension Activities

- Habitat Sort: set out three labeled trays for grassland, rainforest, and polar coast, and have students sort picture cards of plants and animals into the habitat where each would survive



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[grade-3-did-you-know-3rd-grade-1.pdf](#)

- Practice Worksheet 2 (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-3-did-you-know-3rd-grade-2.pdf>)

DID YOU KNOW?

There are SO many **AMAZING scientific facts** out there, waiting to be discovered by YOU!

Check out some of the incredible 'Did You Know?' facts that have to do with many of the science topics you learn about in 3rd Grade.

Plant Fact

The amorphophallus titanum is the **LARGEST** flowering plant in the world and that is not the only amazing fact about it, because when this largest flower blooms...it smells like rotting flesh!

Animal Fact



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Weather Fact

The most violent tornadoes are capable of tremendous destruction with wind speeds of 402 kilometers per hour!



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Earth Fact

Earth is approximately 150 million kilometers (km) from the Sun.



Moon Facts

The moon is approximately 363,301 km from Earth. If you weighed 45 kg, you would weigh just a little over 7 kg on the moon.



Solar System Fact



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Do some AMAZING FACT finding of your own!

Then you can ask your friends, "Did You Know...?"



Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1

Amorphophallus titanum is the _____ **flowering plant** in the world. It is not only **gigantic** but it also has a **unique smell** for a flower: when it blooms it smells like rotting flesh. **Yuck!**

- A** largest **C** most colorful
B smallest **D** best smelling



2

_____ can grow to be **extremely tall**. They can grow to be over 91 meters tall!

- A** Pear trees
B Oak trees
C Giant redwood trees
D Maple trees



3

The **largest seed** in the plant kingdom weighs approximately **18 kg**. What tree is this enormous seed from?

- A** a willow tree



4

_____ are good to have in a **garden** because they eat insects that eat plants.

- A** aphids
B bees



5



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- A** true
B false



- C** feet
D ears



9

Grasslands cover about _____ of the earth.

- A** $\frac{1}{2}$
B all
C $\frac{1}{4}$
D $\frac{1}{8}$



10

Many _____ that people take when they are **sick** are made from plants that grow in **tropical rainforests**.

- A** drinks made with milk
B bread pieces
C hats
D medicines





Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1

Amorphophallus titanum is the _____ **flowering plant** in the world. It is not only **gigantic** but it also has a **unique smell** for a flower: when it blooms it smells like rotting flesh. **Yuck!**

- A** largest **C** most colorful
B smallest **D** best smelling



(A)

2

_____ can grow to be **extremely tall**. They can grow to be over 91 meters tall!

- A** Pear trees
B Oak trees
C Giant redwood trees
D Maple trees



(C)

3

The **largest seed** in the plant kingdom weighs approximately **18 kg**. What tree is this enormous seed from?

- A** a willow tree
B an orange tree



(D)

4

_____ are good to have in a **garden** because they eat insects that eat plants.

- A** aphids
B bees



(C)

5



(B)

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(B)

- A** true
B false



- C** feet
D ears



9

Grasslands cover about _____ of the earth.

- A** $\frac{1}{2}$
B all
C $\frac{1}{4}$
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(C)

10

Many _____ that people take when they are **sick** are made from plants that grow in **tropical rainforests**.

- A** drinks made with milk
B bread pieces
C hats
D medicines



(D)



Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1

Seventy percent of the **earth** is covered by water. About _____ of that water found on earth is **salt water**.

- A 97%
- B 50%
- C 10%
- D 5%



2

Every year, **hurricanes** are named starting at the beginning of the alphabet. **Why are hurricanes named?**

- A because they are dangerous
- B because it is fun to do
- C to keep track of individual hurricanes
- D because they bring heavy winds

3

The most violent **tornadoes** are capable of **tremendous** destruction with wind speeds of _____ kilometers per hour.

- A 50
- C 125



4

Even the **rocks** at the bottom of the **ocean** and on the **moon** are made of _____.

- A soft materials
- B minerals



5

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- B Mt. Olympus
- C Mount St. Helens
- D Mt. Everest

- A true
- B false



9

People in America use about **45,359,237 metric tons of paper** each year which consumes more than _____ trees. **That is a lot of trees!**

- A 85,000
- B 850
- C 85
- D 850 million



10

_____ are at the **top of their food chain**, meaning that no other animals eat them unless they are seriously injured in some way.

- A Ostriches
- B Hawks
- C All birds
- D Sparrows





Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1

Seventy percent of the **earth** is covered by water. About _____ of that water found on earth is **salt water**.

- A** 97%
- B** 50%
- C** 10%
- D** 5%

**(A)****2**

Every year, **hurricanes** are named starting at the beginning of the alphabet. **Why are hurricanes named?**

- A** because they are dangerous
- B** because it is fun to do
- C** to keep track of individual hurricanes
- D** because they bring heavy winds

(C)**3**

The most violent **tornadoes** are capable of **tremendous** destruction with wind speeds of _____ kilometers per hour.

- A** 50
- C** 125

**(D)****4**

Even the **rocks** at the bottom of the **ocean** and on the **moon** are made of _____.

- A** soft materials
- B** minerals

**(B)****5****(D)**

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(A)

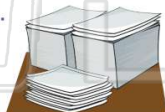
- B** Mt. Olympus
- C** Mount St. Helens
- D** Mt. Everest

- A** true
- B** false

**9**

People in America use about **45,359,237 metric tons of paper** each year which consumes more than _____ trees. **That is a lot of trees!**

- A** 85,000
- B** 850
- C** 85
- D** 850 million

**(D)****10**

_____ are at the **top of their food chain**, meaning that no other animals eat them unless they are seriously injured in some way.

- A** Ostriches
- B** Hawks
- C** All birds
- D** Sparrows

**(B)**



Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1

Cinnamon comes from the _____ of a tree called *Cinnamomum zeylanicum*.

- A flowers
- B leaves
- C bark
- D roots

**2**

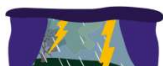
_____ is a big charge of **electricity** that can reach from clouds to the ground or to other clouds. It can start fires on the ground where it strikes.

- A A comet
- B Hail
- C Thunder
- D Lightning

**3**

Thunder can be measured as high as **120 decibels**. A normal conversation is measured at about _____ decibels.

- A 5
- C 130

**4**

Earth is approximately **150 million km** from _____.

- A the Sun
- B the moon
- C Pluto

**5**

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D Uranus



D 80 km wide

9

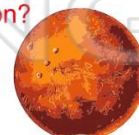
_____ is most often known for **its red spot**, which is caused by extremely powerful winds.

- A Mars
- B Saturn
- C Jupiter
- D Pluto

**10**

Volcanoes occur on other planets besides Earth. The largest known volcano of the solar system is Olympus Mons. **What planet is Olympus Mons located on?**

- A Mars
- B Pluto
- C Earth
- D Jupiter





Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

- 1 **Cinnamon** comes from the _____ of a tree called *Cinnamomum zeylanicum*.

A flowers
B leaves
C bark
D roots



(C)

- 2 _____ is a big charge of **electricity** that can reach from clouds to the ground or to other clouds. It can start fires on the ground where it strikes.

A A comet
B Hail
C Thunder
D Lightning



(D)

- 3 **Thunder** can be measured as high as **120 decibels**. A normal conversation is measured at about _____ decibels.

A 5 C 130



(B)

- 4 **Earth** is approximately **150 million km** from _____.

A the Sun
B the moon
C Pluto



(A)

5



(A)

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(B)

D Uranus



D 80 km wide

9

- _____ is most often known for **its red spot**, which is caused by extremely powerful winds.

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B Saturn
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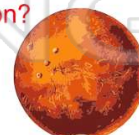


(C)

10

- Volcanoes** occur on other planets besides Earth. The largest known volcano of the solar system is Olympus Mons. **What planet is Olympus Mons located on?**

A Mars C Earth
B Pluto D Jupiter



(A)