

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Wetland Habitat



There are living and non living things in the forest habitat. Living things include the plants and the animals and the non living things include the rocks, sand, dirt and bodies of water. Plants and animals need air and water to survive. Some animals need to make a home in their

habitat. A wetland is a region that is quite wet as the name implies. A wetland includes shallow waters both fresh or salt water and the wet soil, dirt and sands surrounding the shallow waters. The wetland is the standing water and the land between the water and the land. The climate varies in the wetlands because wetlands can be found in the arctic but also near the equator and the tropics. Wetlands occur on every continent except on Antarctica. Marshes, swamps, ponds and bogs are all examples of wetlands. Wetlands provide a source of food for the food chains. Depending on the location of the wetlands, there's a variety of birds, fish, salamanders, snakes, turtles, otters, beavers and insects. Wetlands have many functions, they provide food to other animals, they filter water, they help to control flooding, and some help to provide crops such as rice and cranberries. Wetland plants provide food for many wetland animals as well as shelter for animals hiding from their predators. One example of a food chain in the wetland would be the pelican that eats the shrimp that eats the algae. Some well known wetlands are the Everglades in Florida, the Amazon Floodplains, and the Kakadu National Park in Australia.

## Questions:

- 1 Explain why there are different plants and animals on different wetlands?
- 2 Define wetlands using your own words.
- 3 Name three types of wetlands.
- 4 Use two sentences to describe what a wetland can be like.
- 5 Explain how a wetland is different than the location of your habitat.
- 6 What three things would you like to know about wetlands?

