

HOME IS WHERE THE HABITAT IS



Bollinger County
Soil & Water
Conservation District



HOME IS WHERE THE HABITAT IS

The 2025 theme, "Home is Where the Habitat Is" highlights the vital role native habitats play in sustaining biodiversity, storing carbon, and protecting soil and water resources.

When animals, plants, and aquatic life have healthy habitats, it benefits us all by ensuring ecosystem stability, enhancing natural beauty, and supporting clean air and water, creating a resilient and sustainable environment.



What is a **HABITAT?**

A habitat is the natural environment where an organism lives, grows, and interacts with other living and non-living elements.

Habitats provide everything an organism needs to survive, including food, water, shelter, and suitable environmental conditions.



HABITATS

Animals can be classified based on their habitat into several categories. Here are some of the categories based on animal habitats.





TERRESTRIAL

AQUATIC

&



Aquatic habitats encompass water-based environments such as oceans and freshwater lakes while terrestrial habitats include land-based environments like forests and deserts.

TERRESTRIAL ANIMALS

Terrestrial animals are those that primarily live on land. They have adapted to a variety of terrestrial habitats, including mountains, grasslands, deserts, and woods. Turtles, dogs, bears, and horses are some well-known terrestrial animals.



GET OFF MY LAWN!

Hello MY NAME IS SPEEDY



AQUATIC ANIMALS

Aquatic animals are adapted to life in water.



To survive in water, aquatic species have developed traits like gills, fins, and streamlined bodies. Fish, whales, and dolphins are a few examples of aquatic species.



AMPHIBIANS

Amphibians are unique because they have a dual habitat life cycle.

As aquatic larvae, they begin their existence in the water, and as adults, they switch to a terrestrial way of life.

Amphibians include creatures like salamanders, frogs, and toads.





ARBOREAL ANIMALS

Animals that live in trees are known as arboreal animals. To travel and find food in their arboreal surroundings, they have evolved specialized traits like prehensile tails or grasping limbs.

Squirrels, lizards and tree frogs are some examples found in the United States.



Tree Frog!

AERIAL ANIMALS

Aerial animals spend most of their time in the air. This group comprises flying animals like birds and bats.

Animals that live in the air have developed wings and other adaptations that allow them to fly.



RACCOON

Terrestrial

Raccoons, the masked bandits of the night, are city slickers and woodland wanderers with a knack for opening trash cans and "washing" their food (really just feeling it). These nocturnal snackers are picky eaters and expert explorers, proving that even wildlife can have a bit of urban flair.



OWL

Aerial

They are birds of prey adapted for life in the air, with excellent flight abilities and keen eyesight for hunting. While they may perch on land or in trees, their primary habitat and hunting activities are in the air.

What?

Did you know that an owl has the ability to rotate its head a full 270 degrees?



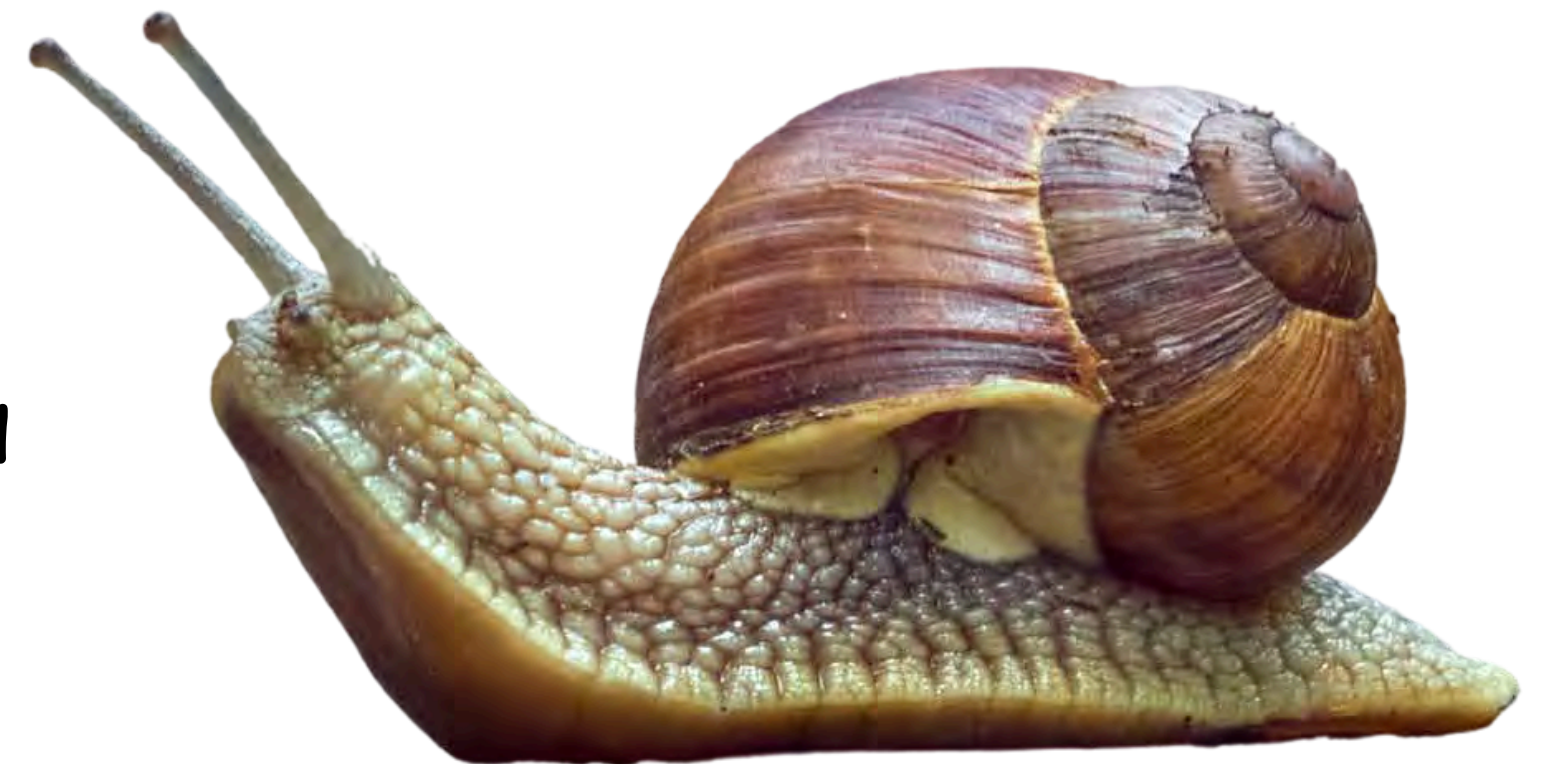
TRICK QUESTION!!!!

Terrestrial AND Aquatic!

For snails, the appropriate habitat classifications are:

- **Terrestrial:** This refers to snails that live on land, such as garden snails and forest snails.
- **Aquatic:** This includes snails that live in water environments, such as ponds, lakes, and rivers.

So, depending on the type of snail, their habitat could be classified as either terrestrial or aquatic.



CALIFORNIA GIANT SALAMANDER

Amphibian

The California Giant Salamander lives in cool, shaded forests of northern California, depending on clean streams and moist, sheltered areas.

BUT

It's cousin, the arboreal salamander inhabits coastal forests, where it climbs trees and hides in moist, shaded spots like bark and tree hollows.

I ♥ TREES



WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

4th, 5th & 6th Graders in Bollinger County Schools



HOW TO ENTER:

Teachers will collect the posters and turn them into the USDA Service Center by Friday, April 11, 2025.

Winning entries will be selected by staff @ the local USDA Service Center.

For more information contact Beth or Megan @ 573-238-2671 ext. 3

or email Beth at beth.eeftink@swcd.mo.gov



Ribbons and Monetary prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners in EACH grade level.

1st place - \$100 2nd place - \$75 3rd place - \$50



WHAT MAKES A GOOD POSTER?

- **Attracts attention**
- **Is simple and concise**
- **Uses colors and white space effectively**
- **Text is large enough to be easily read**

RULES TO FOLLOW

WHEN CREATING YOUR POSTER



- Students **FIRST** and **LAST** name, **SCHOOL** and **GRADE** **MUST** be on the back of the poster!
- The 2025 Theme: "Home is where the Habitat is" **MUST** be the on the poster! Don't use any other title.
- Entry must be students original creation and may not be traced from photographs or published works.
- Refer to this presentation for key terms!
- Look around. What habitats do you see? What or who lives in them?
- Research the topic of the theme - **HABITATS**



Poster Contest Details

Poster size must be 14" x 22" (half a poster)

Any media can be used to create a flat poster

- **Paint**
- **Crayons**
- **Colored Pencils**
- **Charcoal**

Students first and last name, grade and school MUST be on the back of the poster.

The poster must incorporate the 2025 theme “Home is Where the Habitat Is”.

Posters must be turned into the USDA Service Center by Friday, April 11, 2025.