The Living Organisms - Characteristics and Habitats

Terrestrial habitat

- Plants and animals living on land are said to be in terrestrial habitat.
- The examples of terrestrial habitats are deserts, grassland and mountain regions.

Deserts

- Animals commonly found are camel, desert rat, etc.
- Commonly found plant is cactus.

Mountain regions

- Animals commonly found are snow leopards, yak, mountain goat, etc.
- Plants commonly found are cone shaped trees with sloping branches such as pines.

Grasslands

- Animals commonly found are lion, deer, etc.
- Plants commonly found are grasses.

Aquatic habitat

- Plants and animals living in water are said to be in aquatic habitat. Aquatic animals use the oxygen dissolved in water to survive.
- Aquatic animals usually have streamlined body that help in their movement, and have pairs of gills that help in respiration under the water.
- The examples of aquatic habitat are oceans, ponds and lakes.

Oceans

- Animals commonly found are fish, octopus, squids, etc.

Ponds and lakes

- Animals commonly found are frogs, toads, etc.

Aerial Habitat

- Birds have some special adaptations for flight: streamlined body, forelimbs modified into wings, strong wing muscles, and hollow bones.
- Some plants disperse their seeds through winds. Such seeds are light in weight and have silky hair or wing-like extensions.

Biotic factors: The living components of the environment make up the biotic factors. For example: plants , animals and micro-organisms
Abiotic factors: The non-living components of the environment make up the abiotic factors. For example: air, water and soil
Living organisms

- The living creatures of all kinds are known as living organisms.
- For example, all plants, animals, and microorganisms are living organisms.

Characteristics of Living Organisms

- All living organisms are made up of cells.
- All living organisms require food.
- All living organisms show growth.
- All living organisms respire.
- All living things respond to stimuli.
- All living things excrete.
- All living things reproduce.

Differences between Living things and Non Living things.

Living things	Non Living things
They are made up of cells.	They are not made up of cells.
They show movement, but the energy for movement comes from within the organism.	They show movement by taking external force or energy.
They need food.	They do not need food.
Growth is irreversible.	Growth is reversible.
Respiration occurs in which food is oxidised to release energy.	They do not need respiration.
Reproduction occurs in living things.	Non living things do not reproduce.

Differences between Plants and Animals

Plants	Animals
They can make their own food by the process of photosynthesis. They are known as autotrophs.	They cannot make their own food. They are heterotrophs.
They show movement but cannot show locomotion i.e. they cannot change their position from one place to another.	They show movement as well as locomotion.
They show a response to stimuli but lack sense organs.	They also show a response to stimuli and have well-developed sense organs.

They grow throughout their life.	They stop growing once they reach their adult form.