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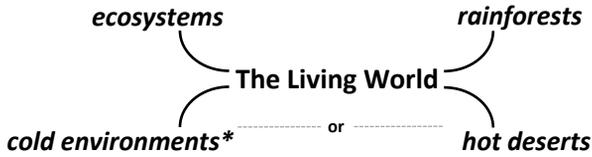
THE LIVING WORLD

Cold Environments



quiz

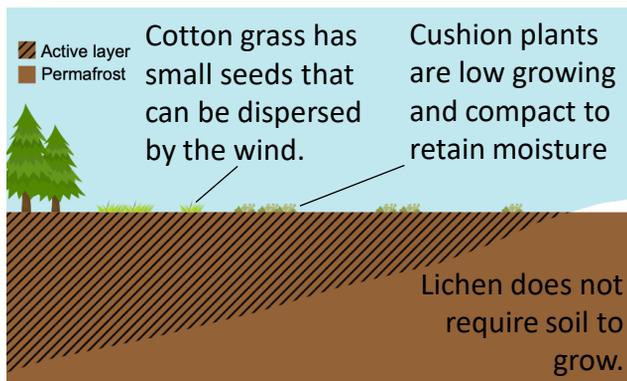
The Big Picture



Key Terms

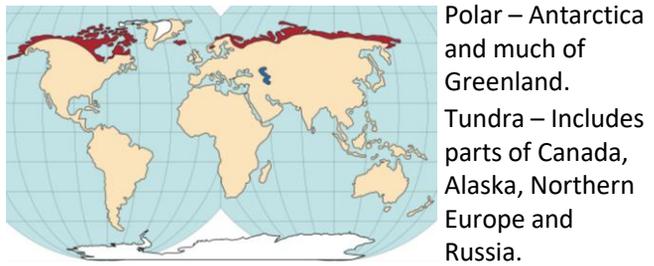
- Biodiversity** – The variety of life in the world or a particular habitat.
- Fragile environment** – An environment that is both easily disturbed and difficult to restore if disturbed.
- Infrastructure** – Basic equipment and structures for a location to function.
- Mineral extraction** – The removal of solid mineral resources from the earth.
- Permafrost** – Permanently frozen ground.
- Polar** – Most extreme cold environment inc. Antarctica and much of Greenland.
- Tundra** – The flat, treeless Arctic regions where the ground is permanently frozen.
- Wilderness area** – A natural environment that has not been significantly modified by human activity.

Adaptations



- Arctic Foxes and Arctic Hares**
- have thick fur on their bodies and feet to keep them warm
 - in winter their fur becomes white providing camouflage from predators

Location



Characteristics

- Climate** – P = Temp below freezing all year and precipitation low. T = High temp range. Snowy winter, rain in summer. Dark winter.
- Permafrost** – T = active layer freezes in winter and thaws in summer. Permafrost below.
- Soil** – P = mainly bare rock. T = Thin and lack fertility. Waterlogged in summer. Depth and fertility increase from Poles.
- Biotic** – Low level of biodiversity. Food chain and webs are very basic. Adaptations required.
- People** – No permanent settlements in polar. Indigenous people live in tundra esp. near coast.

Interdependence

- Interdependence includes:
- simple food webs
 - sustainable coexistence of people, plants and animals in cold environments
 - adaptations of plants and animals to soil and climate characteristics
 - potential damage to the ecosystem inflicted by resource exploitation.

Biodiversity

