Life in the Sahara and the Sahel: Adapting to a Desert Region

How do people adapt to living in a desert region?

1. In the space below, list or draw six things you typically do every day. You might include daily routines, such as riding the bus to school. Or activities, like going to soccer practice.
2. Now look at the photograph your teacher is projecting.
   - List or draw three details about the physical geography of this location.

   - How might your routines and activities change if you lived here?
     Why might they change?

   - How do you think the physical geography of this location influences people’s routines and activities?
Read the Introduction and Section 1. Then, create an illustrated dictionary of the Geoterm by completing these tasks:
- Create a symbol or an illustration to represent each term.
- Write a definition of each term in your own words.
- Write a sentence that includes the term and the words *desert region*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geoterm and Symbol</th>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Sentence</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>desertification</td>
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<tr>
<td>drought</td>
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<tr>
<td>marginal land</td>
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<td>pastoral nomads</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Follow your teacher’s directions to complete your notebook for each of three environments: desert, oasis, and Sahel.

### Sections 2-7

#### 2 The Desert Environment
What are the physical characteristics of the desert?

How do you think people have adapted to living in the desert?

#### 3 Adaptations to Life in the Desert
How have people adapted to living in the desert?
4 The Oasis Environment
What are the physical characteristics of oases?

How do you think people have adapted to living in oases?

5 Adaptations to Life in the Oases
How have people adapted to living in oases?

6 The Sahel Environment
What are the physical characteristics of the Sahel?

How do you think people have adapted to living in the Sahel?

7 Adaptations to Life in the Sahel
How have people adapted to living in the Sahel?
Think about how people have adapted to your physical environment. Create a drawing to show your ideas.

1. Draw details of the environment in the background. Think about the physical features, climate, and vegetation of where you live.

2. Draw a person in the center. Add clothing and other possessions to show adaptations people have made. Think about these things:
   - housing
   - transportation
   - economic activity (jobs)
   - the type of community where you live

3. Label ways in which the person has adapted to the environment. For example, you might label a pair of sunglasses “protect eyes from the sun.” You might label the person’s arms “strong from shoveling snow in the winter.”