

Wetlands



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Introducing Wetlands

Wetlands are areas of land that are covered in still or slow-flowing water. Slow-flowing rivers and streams often form wetlands. Areas that flood after rain or are sometimes covered by seawater can form wetlands, too.

Wetlands are both interesting and beautiful. Wetland areas are home to different animals and plants.

Like all wetlands, this wetland in the South Island of New Zealand is on flat land.



Water and Life

All living things cannot survive without water. Wherever there is water on Earth, there is life. Wetlands have a lot of water. So wetlands are full of life.

Wetland Habitats

A wetland **habitat** has great **biodiversity**. This means that it is home to many different living things. There are many birds, insects, fish and other animals. They live on, in or near the water.



Pelicans flock to wetlands because they are waterbirds that must live on or around water.



Two caimans feed on fish in a freshwater wetland in Brazil.

