

Video summary	Before watching the video	During the video
<p>A close look at how people plants and animals adapt to live in the Arabian desert.</p> <p>Ferne Corrigan locates hot deserts around the world describing their location and climatic conditions before investigating the Arabian desert in Dubai.</p> <p>Focussing on the Arabian desert she looks at adaptations made by bushes and trees that allow them to survive in these extreme conditions.</p> <p>Ferne explains how the Arabian death scorpion has adapted to survive in the desert and how the fennec fox has adapted to thrive in the arid environment.</p> <p>The adaptations of the camel demonstrate why they are nicknamed the ship of the desert and Ferne explains how Bedouin people have adapted to live in desert conditions.</p>	<p>Look at a map of the Arabian desert. Ask students to give a locational description of the desert and to identify the countries found within the desert.</p> <p>Ask students about the types of animals that they think might live in the Arabian desert and what type of climate they live in. Students could make predictions, which they could then add to once they have watched the film.</p> <p>Introduce key terms such as:</p> <p>Peninsula: A piece of land almost surrounded by water or projecting out into a body of water.</p> <p>Impermeable: Doesn't allow water to pass through it.</p> <p>Nocturnal: Something that sleeps during the day and is more active at night.</p> <p>Nomadic: Moving around, for example the Bedouin move around with their herds for the best grazing lands and water.</p> <p>Metabolism: The body's process of converting food and water into energy.</p>	<p>You may wish to stop at relevant points during this short film to pose questions and check understanding or wait until the end. Useful questions might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where is the Arabian desert? • What is the climate like in the Arabian desert? • How are plants adapted to living in the Arabian desert? • Where can water be found in a desert? • What animals live in the Arabian desert? • How is the Arabian death scorpion adapted to living in the Arabian desert? • How is the Fennec Fox adapted to living in the Arabian desert? • How are camels adapted to living in the Arabian desert? • Who are the Bedouin? • How do humans use the Arabian desert?

After watching

Ask students to look back at their predictions, were they right about what they thought they would see in the Arabian desert? Students could complete a spider diagram to note down the basic information about each of the Arabian desert: vegetation, climate, animals and human uses.

Give students an image of the Arabian death scorpion and ask them to annotate it with the adaptation, for example not needing to drink water. Discuss with students how the adaptations enable it to survive in the climate of the Arabian desert. Students could carry out the same activity with the Fennec Fox. This could then lead students to designing their own plant or animal that could live in the Arabian desert.

Discuss the human uses of the Arabian desert. Ask students whether they think those uses are good for the biome or if they will cause issues. Students could then rank the uses from most damaging to least damaging using their opinion and then writing up their decision.

Curriculum notes	Where next?	Links
<p>This clip will be relevant for teaching Geography at KS3 and GCSE.</p> <p>This topic appears in OCR, Edexcel, AQA, WJEC KS4/GCSE in England and Wales, CCEA GCSE in Northern Ireland and SOA National 4/5 in Scotland.</p>	<p>Compare the Arabian desert to a contrasting ecosystem such Amazon Rainforest.</p> <p>Students could compare:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animals • Vegetation • Climate • Human uses <p>A case study could be built for the Arabian Desert. This could form a research task which students could then present to the class.</p>	<p>Desert guide: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/znnhp4j</p> <p>Characteristics of hot deserts: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpnq6fr/revision/1</p> <p>Distribution of ecosystems: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/ztcch39/revision/3</p> <p>Climate: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zqqvf82#z4vh6g8</p> <p>The Travel Show: Experiencing life in a Bedouin camp https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p04ksgwb</p>