

Name: _____

- 1 Select the correct number facts from the box to complete the sentences below.

<i>minus-12</i>	<i>minus-9</i>	<i>one-quarter</i>	<i>one-third</i>	<i>two-quarters</i>
<i>two-thirds</i>	<i>two</i>	<i>three</i>	<i>three</i>	<i>four</i>
<i>five</i>	<i>six</i>	<i>six</i>	<i>seven</i>	<i>eight</i>
<i>twelve</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>hundreds</i>	<i>thousands</i>

- Deserts cover nearly _____ of the land surface of the Earth and are found on all _____ continents.
 - There are _____ types of deserts.
 - Over _____ of years, people have lived in and studied the ways of the desert.
 - There are places in Antarctica where no rain has fallen for _____ million years and the ice is _____ kilometres thick!
 - Antarctica is covered by a massive sheet of ice, made up of _____ of the world's fresh water.
 - In cold-winter deserts the temperatures may fall to _____ °C and _____ months later soar to _____ °C.
- 2 Locate and then read the following words in their sentences. Write down what you think each word means. Use a dictionary to check your definitions.
- (page 5) region _____
 - (page 7) species _____
 - (page 8) conditions _____
 - (page 9) arid _____
 - (page 11) altitude _____

- 3 The following passage is written in the first person (by Jason Edwards). Rewrite the passage in the third person (as an onlooker). The first part has been done for you.

Last night I had an amazing dream about deserts. Deserts have always interested me, and now I've decided to learn about them and keep a journal of my findings. My first goal? To find out exactly what a desert is! I discovered that a desert is a region with little or no water, inhabited by plants, animals and sometimes people.

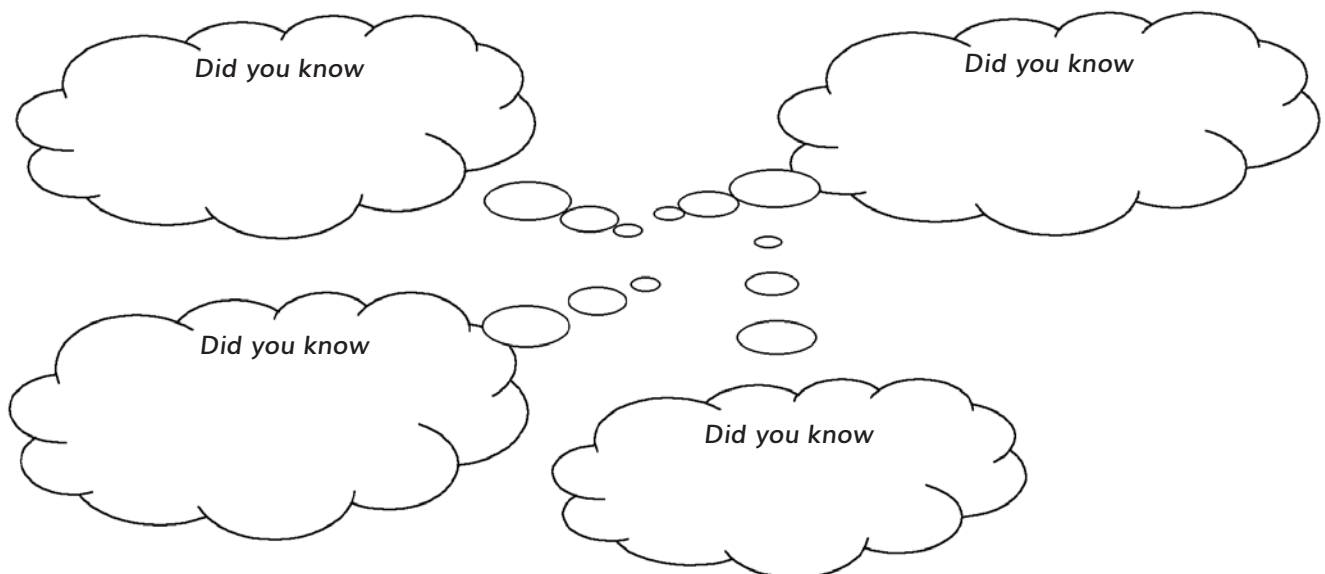
One night Jason had an amazing dream _____

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- 1 Select one coloured pencil (or highlighter) for each desert type. Shade the information for each desert by selecting one fact from each column. You may refer to the text.

Polar desert	Near huge mountain ranges	Driest places on Earth	Guanacos	Skeleton Coast Africa
Sub-tropical desert	Fogbanks and rain shadows	Extreme conditions	Magellan penguins	Central Australia
Cold-winter desert	Ice that is kilometres thick	Moisture collects on rocks	Polar bears	Antarctica
Cool-coastal desert	Scorched earth and mirages	Freezing cold all year	Gecko	Between equator and poles

- 2 On his journey, Jason learns many interesting facts. Write the four pieces of information that you found most interesting in the 'Did you know ...' bubbles below.



- 3 The author, Jason Edwards, uses precise adjectives to describe deserts. Use the page numbers to find the following adjectives. Reread the sentence and circle the word you think matches it most closely.

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|------------|---------|
| a (page 15) scorched | baked | dry | parched |
| b (page 20) withered | wilted | shrivelled | faded |
| c (page 24) torrential | heavy | bucketing | wet |
| d (page 29) inhabited | colonised | populated | settled |

Looking back and making connections

Use an atlas to locate the deserts that Jason has described in 'Desert Journal'. Create a map of the desert that you found most interesting. Include a border, key, North arrow, title, scale and the atlas name and details.