

Australia's Deserts — Knowledge Organiser

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Key facts

- Australia is the driest inhabited continent on Earth.
- Deserts cover a large part of the centre and west.
- The Simpson Desert is famous for its long red sand dunes.
- Despite the dryness, deserts are full of life adapted to survive.

Key vocabulary

- Desert — a very dry area with little rain.
- Dune — a hill of wind-blown sand.
- Arid — extremely dry.
- Adaptation — a feature that helps survival.

Life in the desert

Plants and animals survive by storing water, staying underground or active at night, and making the most of rare rains. Aboriginal peoples have lived in and cared for these lands for thousands of years.

Red centre

Iron in the sand gives many Australian deserts their famous red colour.