



Lesson: New Hampshire's 27 Habitats

(To follow Amplify CKLA 1, Knowledge 8: Animals and Habitats, Lesson 1: What is a Habitat?)

At a Glance	In this lesson, students extend their understanding of what a habitat is by using non-fiction text, feature sorts, and a simple game to investigate New Hampshire's 27 different habitats.
Primary Focus Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will identify characteristics of a particular habitat.• Students will describe how different habitats are connected.• Students will follow directions to create a bingo board and use reading and listening skills to play a habitat-focused version of the game.
Formative Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Habitat Feature Sort• Group discussion of Mason's Challenge• Habitat Bingo
Standards	<p>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.1.2 Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.</p> <p>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.1.5a Sort words into categories (e.g., colors, clothing) to gain a sense of the concepts the categories represent.</p>
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus Text: Unit 1: New Hampshire Geography, Learn It! "Features of the Land," pages 1-6• Habitat Feature Sort worksheet and large construction paper sheets• Focus Text Facts: New Hampshire's 27 Habitats• Habitat Bingo board and spaces• Plastic counters or other small objects to cover bingo spaces• More information for educators: NH Fish and Game Department "Habitat Types and Species"
Time Needed	Two 30-40 minute class sessions
Learning Activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Read Aloud the Focus Text. Project the suggested "Learn It" pages and read aloud to students, pausing as necessary to explain new vocabulary and discuss points of interest and supporting images. <i>(20 minutes)</i>2. Complete Habitat Feature Sort. Support students as they match food and shelter features to the six most common habitat categories in New Hampshire. <i>(20 minutes)</i>3. Share the Focus Text Facts and complete Mason's Challenge. Project Focus Text Facts: New Hampshire's 27 Habitats and explore the infographic as a group. Read and discuss Mason's Challenge. <i>(15 minutes)</i>4. Create bingo boards and play the game. Provide students with worksheets and support them as they create their game boards and play a few rounds of Habitat Bingo. See Educator Rationale and Answer Guide for specific instructions. <i>(25 minutes)</i>



Educator Rationale and Answer Guide

Connection to Amplify

This lesson reinforces and extends the learning goals achieved in Amplify CKLA 1, Knowledge 8: Animals and Habitats, Lesson 1: “What Is a Habitat?” through an exploration of the common habitats in New Hampshire. Students listen to a non-fiction read aloud about the six common types of habitats and build literacy skills through a feature sort for each habitat focusing on food and shelter. An infographic shows students that within each of those six habitat types are actually many other habitats, and they discuss what happens if one of the habitats is damaged or destroyed. Students reinforce their understanding of the variety of habitat types in New Hampshire with a game of bingo.

Read Aloud the Focus Text

The six pages in the “Learn It!” section offer a brief overview of each habitat category. Each page features an image and/or infographic with more information about something specific to that habitat. Explore those supporting resources as time allows.

Complete Habitat Feature Sort

Provide students with a large piece of construction paper. Instruct them to cut out the habitat category cards and glue them to the paper in two rows. They should cut out the shelter feature cards and paste them next to the appropriate habitat. You may wish to break up the read aloud by completing the relevant category of the feature sort as a whole group or independently before moving on. Or, consider completing the feature sort as a partner or whole group activity after completing all of the reading. **Answers:** Forests: tall trees, old tree trunks; Wetlands: shallow water, muddy swamps; Grasslands: tall grasses, shrubs; Coastal: sandy dunes, rocky coast; Alpine: cliffs, caves; Lakes and Rivers: fast moving water, deep water

This is a good place to pause if dividing the lesson across two class sessions.

Share the Focus Text Facts and answer Mason’s Challenge

This infographic illustrates how the variety of habitats in our state is much more complex and interdependent than just the six main habitat categories. Read through the habitat types for each category. The suggested page from the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department offers thorough summaries of each type with examples of the species that live in each habitat. Some of those species are featured around the circle.

If your students are ready to take on Mason’s Challenge, guide them through a discussion of how different habitats might actually be connected (e.g., a wetland may be fed by a nearby river, or a vernal pool appears within a forest each spring). Help students understand that species may benefit from multiple habitats at different times of the year. If one habitat is damaged (by a natural disaster like a fire or flood or by human activity like housing development), it’s not only the species that need that habitat who are affected. Other animals that needed those species for food or plants that depended on those species for pollination will suffer too.

**Create bingo boards
and play the game**

Help students follow the directions to create the bingo boards. Be sure that they mix up the cards so that the class creates a variety of boards. Distribute plastic counters or other small objects that can be used to cover bingo spaces as habitat types are called. Use the larger cards to create a deck for the caller to draw from and to display so that students can see the words and look for the matches. Playing more than once will help familiarize students with the sound and look of these challenging words. After playing a round or two, consider having students trade boards with a classmate for a different game experience.



NEW HAMPSHIRE HABITAT FEATURE SORT

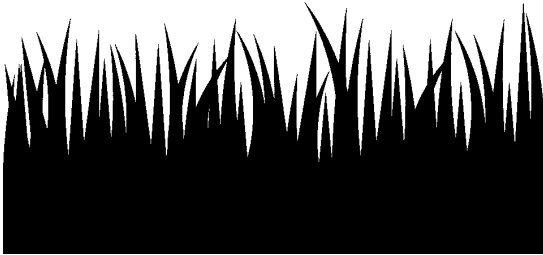
These are the six major habitats in our state. Choose the items that are features of a habitat that provide **shelter** to animals, and match them with the correct habitat card.



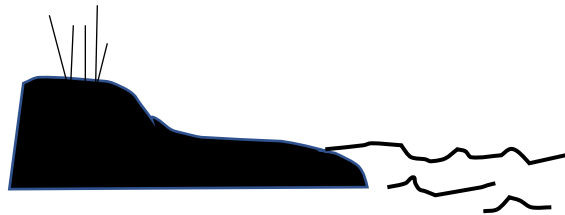
forests



wetlands



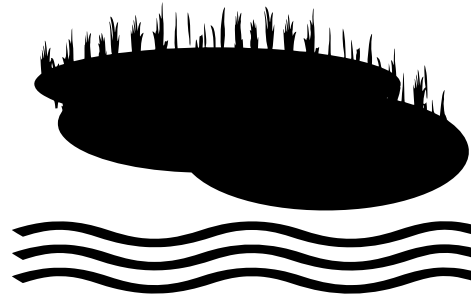
grasslands



coastal



alpine



lakes and rivers



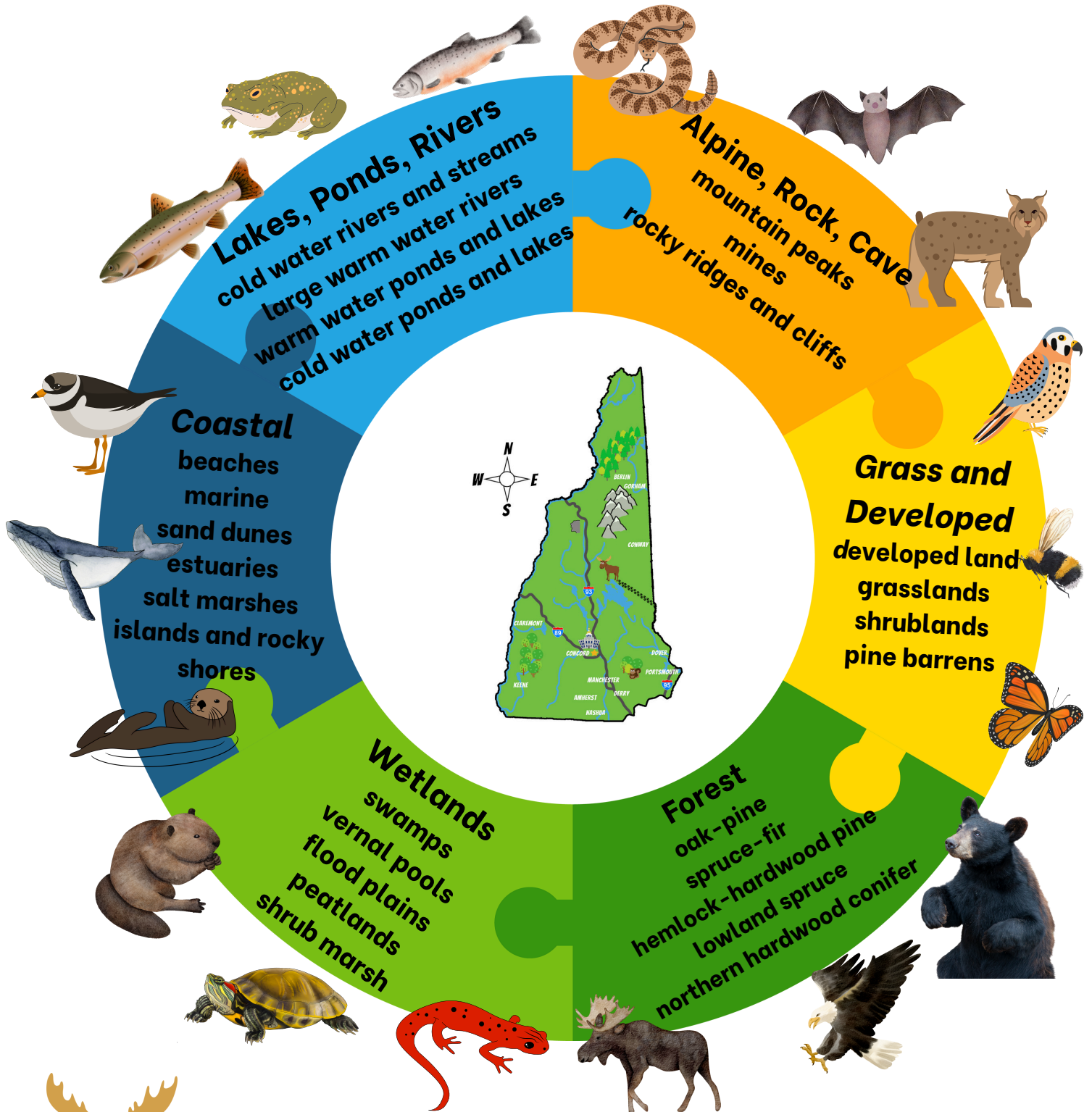
HABITAT FEATURE CARDS

tall trees	fast moving water	cliffs
deep water	old tree trunks	caves
tall grasses	shallow water	sandy dunes
shrubs	muddy swamps	rocky coast



NEW HAMPSHIRE'S 27 HABITATS

The many habitats in our state provide food and shelter to 500 species...not including bugs!



MASON'S CHALLENGE

Take another look at the diagram above. Why are the habitat categories linked together like puzzle pieces? What do you think happens in the real world if one of the pieces in the habitat puzzle is lost or damaged?



NH HABITAT BINGO SQUARES

Cut out the squares. **Choose 24** and glue them to your Bingo Board in any order.

peatlands	mountain peak	beaches	marine	sand dunes
estuaries	salt marshes	islands & rocky coast	swamps	vernal pools
flood plains	shrub marsh	oak-pine forest	spruce-fir forest	hemlock-hardwood pine forest
lowland spruce forest	northern hardwood conifer forest	grasslands	shrublands	developed lands
pine barrens	caves & mines	rocky ridges & cliffs	cold water rivers & streams	warm water lakes & ponds
warm water large rivers	cold water lakes & ponds			



NH HABITAT BINGO

		<i>FREE SPACE</i>		



HABITAT BINGO CALLER DECK

peatlands	mountain peak
sand dune	beaches
marine	estuaries
salt marsh	islands & rocky coast



swamps

vernal pools

flood plains

shrub
marsh

oak-pine
forest

spruce-fir
forest

hemlock-
hardwood
pine forest

lowland
spruce
forest

grasslands

shrublands



developed
lands

pine
barrens

caves &
mines

rocky ridges
& cliffs

cold water
rivers &
streams

warm water
lakes &
ponds

warm water
large rivers

cold water
lakes &
ponds