

Earth: The Water Planet ▪ *Guided Reading and Study*

Wetland Environments

This section describes wetlands and the habitats they provide. The section also explains why wetlands are important and why the Everglades, a wetland region in Florida, is a unique environment.

Use Target Reading Skills

Before you read, preview the red headings. Ask a what or how question for each heading. As you read, answer your questions.

Wetland Environments

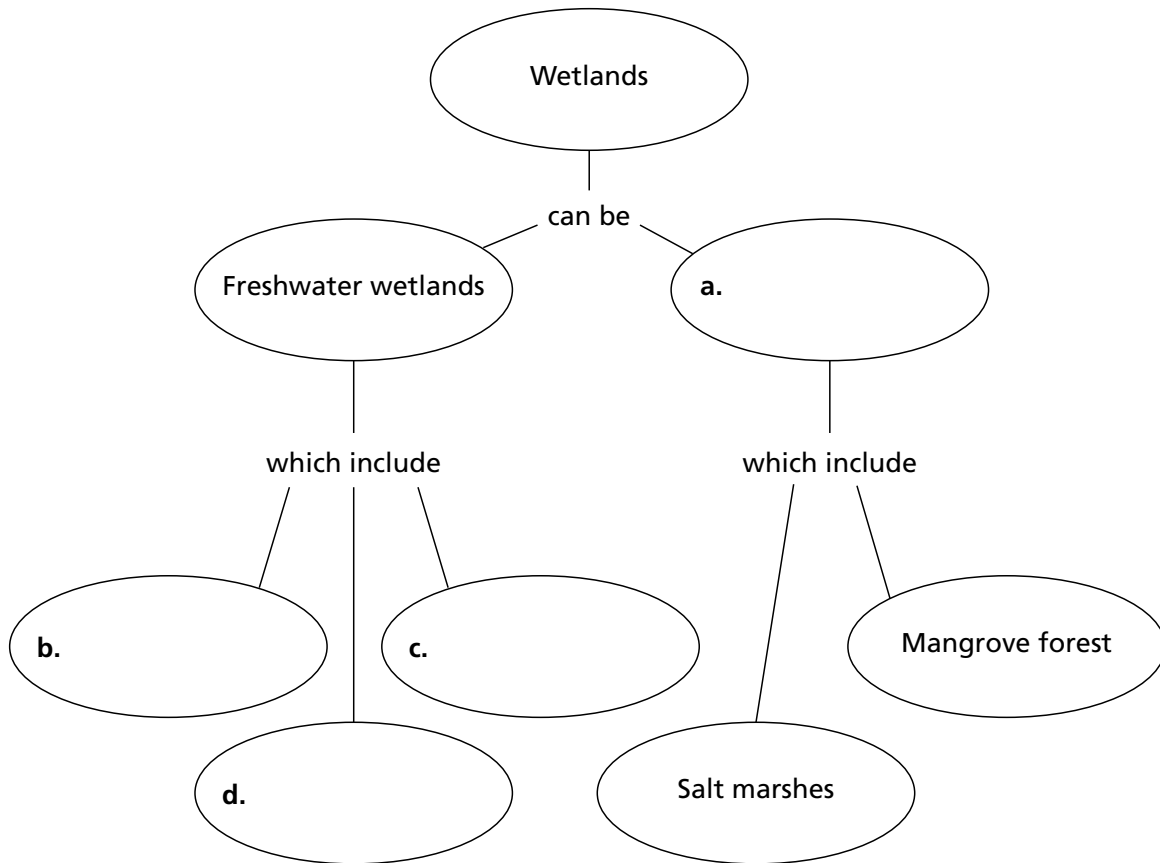
Question	Answer
What are the types of wetlands?	The three types of wetlands are . . .

Types of Wetlands

1. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about a wetland.
 - a. It is an area of land covered with shallow water.
 - b. It can be small or large.
 - c. It may dry up in the summer.
 - d. It may form where groundwater seeps onto the surface.

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2. Complete the concept map.



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The Water Planet**

Match the type of wetland with its description.

Type of Wetland	Description
___ 3. marsh	a. It has trees and shrubs growing in the water.
___ 4. swamp	b. It has tall, strong grasses and a rich, muddy bottom.
___ 5. bog	c. It has cattails, rushes, and other tall grasslike plants.
___ 6. salt marsh	d. It has short trees with a thick tangle of roots.
___ 7. mangrove forest	e. It has acidic water and mosses.

8. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about wetland habitats.

- a. They have sheltered waters.
- b. They provide a poor supply of nutrients.
- c. They have very different animal life from other freshwater habitats.
- d. They have many temporary residents.

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Wetland Environments *(continued)*

The Everglades: A Wetland

9. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about the Everglades.
- a. The water in the Everglades does not flow.
 - b. No trees grow in the Everglades.
 - c. Many rare and endangered species live in the Everglades.
 - d. The Everglades are a fragile environment.

10. How has development affected the water in the Everglades?

Importance of Wetlands

11. Circle the letter of each choice that is a natural function of wetlands.
- a. Helping control floods
 - b. Filtering water
 - c. Trapping silt and mud
 - d. Providing farmland