

Name _____



Where Does a Caterpillar Live?

Caterpillars are found in many parts of the world, from the forests of Asia to the grasslands of Africa. These tiny, wriggly creatures can adapt to different environments, but they have specific needs when choosing a home. Let's explore where caterpillars prefer to live and why!

Most caterpillars live in places with lots of plants. This is because plants provide both food and shelter.

Forests are a favorite habitat for many caterpillars. In tropical rainforests, for example, caterpillars can find plenty of fresh leaves to eat, as well as branches and leaves to hide under. Temperate forests, which have trees like oaks and maples, are also home to many caterpillars, especially during spring and summer.

Grasslands are another great place to find caterpillars. Here, they munch on grasses, wildflowers, and shrubs. Caterpillars that live in grasslands often have colors that help them blend into the tall grass to avoid being spotted by birds and other predators.

Some caterpillars even live in gardens and backyards! These lucky caterpillars have a wide variety of plants to choose from, like vegetables, flowers, and fruits. This is why gardeners often see caterpillars crawling on their plants—they are looking for their next meal.

While caterpillars can adapt to many habitats, you won't find them everywhere. For example, caterpillars don't live in oceans or deserts because there aren't enough plants for them to eat. They prefer moist environments with plenty of greenery.

Around the world, caterpillars thrive wherever plants grow. Whether it's a lush forest, a sunny meadow, or your own backyard, these fascinating creatures are sure to find a place to call home. The next time you're outside, take a closer look at the plants—you might just spot a caterpillar!