A decorative border of autumn leaves and acorns surrounds the central text. The leaves are in various colors including yellow, orange, red, and green, and are scattered around the edges of the dark red background. There are also several acorns and small clusters of red berries interspersed among the leaves.

Atomic Energy Education Society, Mumbai

PPT - Module 1/1
Class VII-Geography

Natural Vegetation and Wildlife
by

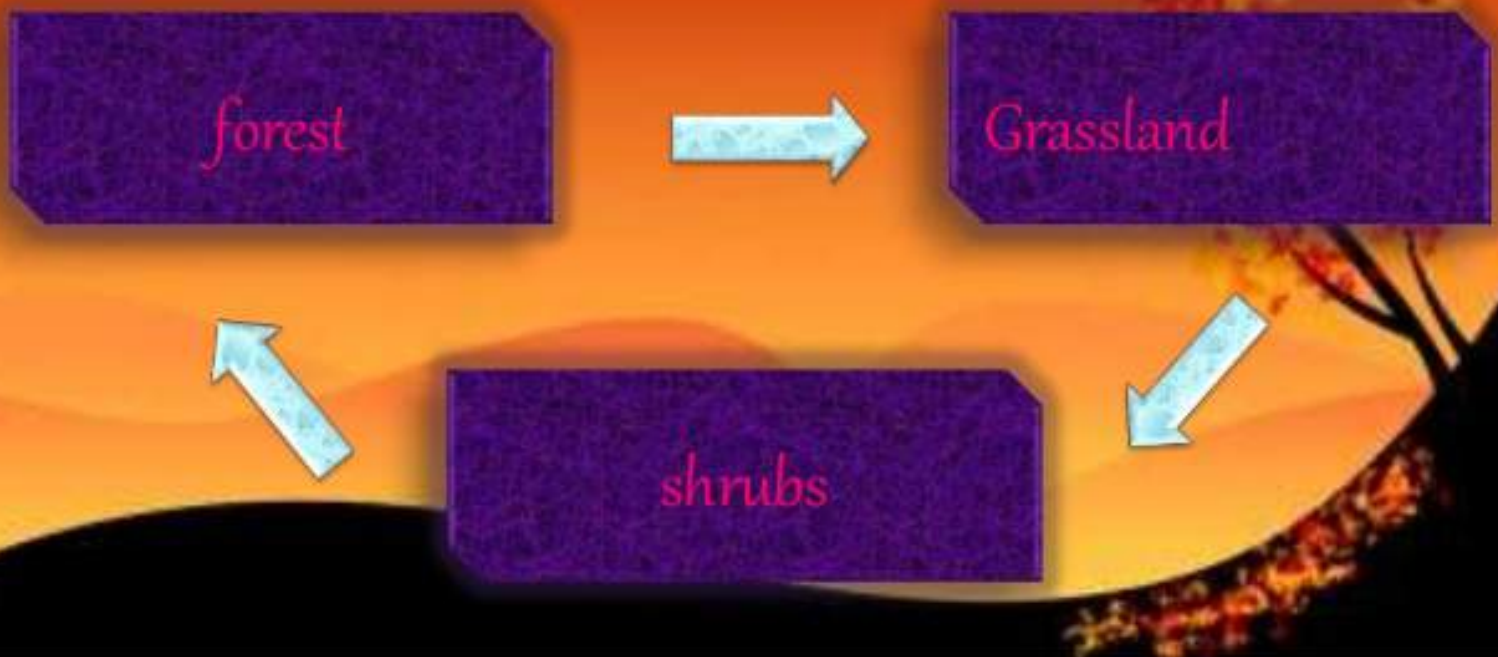
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Types of natural vegetation



Natural vegetation

❖ Natural vegetation can be classified into three broad categories as follows :-



TYPES OF FOREST



TOPICAL EVERGREEN FOREST

- ❖ Also called tropical rainforests
- ❖ These thick forests occur in the regions near the equator and close to the tropics
- ❖ these trees do not shed their leaves altogether therefore they are called evergreen
- ❖ Hardwood trees like rosewood, ebony, mahogany are common here



Tropical Deciduous Forests

- These are the monsoon forests found in the large part of India, northern Australia and in central America.
- These regions experience seasonal changes. Trees shed their leaves in the dry season to conserve water. The hardwood trees found in these forests are sal, teak, neem and shisham. Hardwood trees are extremely useful for making furniture, transport and constructional materials. Tigers, lions, elephants, langoors and monkeys are the common animals of these regions.



Temperate Evergreen Forests

- The temperate evergreen forests are located in the mid-latitude coastal region.
- They are commonly found along the eastern margin of the continents, in south east USA, South China and in South East Brazil.
- They comprise both hard and soft wood trees like oak, pine, eucalyptus,

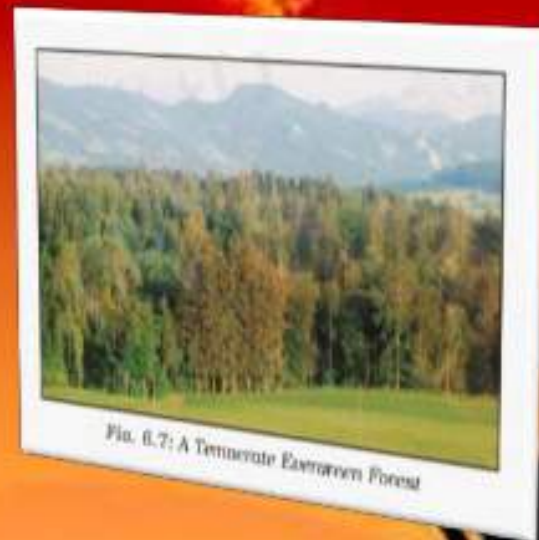


Fig. 6.7: A Temperate Evergreen Forest

Temperate Deciduous Forest

- As we go towards higher latitudes, there are more
- temperate deciduous forests
- These are found in the north eastern part of USA, China, New Zealand, Chile and also found in the coastal regions of Western
- Europe. They shed their leaves in the dry season.
- The common trees are oak, ash, beech, etc. Deer, foxes, wolves
- are the animals commonly found. Birds like pheasants, monals are also found here

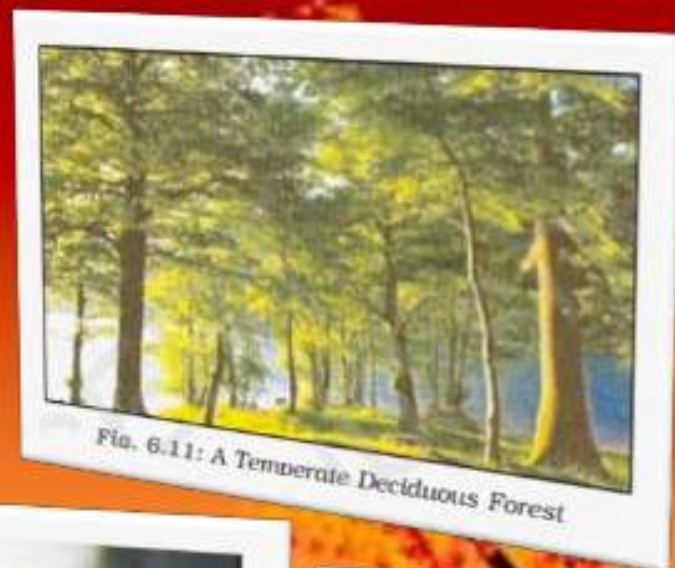


Fig. 6.11: A Temperate Deciduous Forest



Fig. 6.9: A Pheasant

Mediterranean Vegetation

- West and south west margins of the continents have Mediterranean vegetation.
- It is mostly found in the areas around the Mediterranean sea in Europe, Africa and Asia, hence the name
- Also found in California in the USA, south west Africa, south western South America and South west Australia .
- Citrus fruits such as oranges, figs, olives and grapes are commonly cultivated here.
- There isn't much wildlife here.

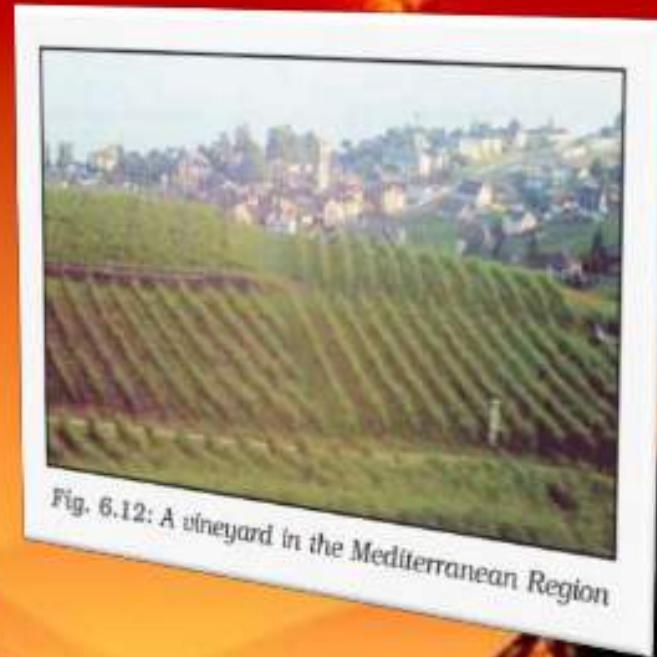


Fig. 6.12: A vineyard in the Mediterranean Region

Coniferous Forests

- Found in latitudes (50° – 70°) of Northern hemisphere
- These are also called as Taiga
- These forests are also seen in the higher altitudes
- They are tall, softwood evergreen trees
- Woods of these trees are very useful for making pulp
- Chir, pine, cedar are the important variety of trees in these forests
- Silver fox, mink, Polar Bear are the common animals found here



Fig. 6.13 (a): A Coniferous Forest



Polar Bear

grasslands



Do you know?

Grasslands are known by different names in different regions.

Tropical Grasslands

East Africa- Savanna

Brazil- Campos

Venezuela- Llanos

Temperate Grasslands

Argentina- Pampas

N. America- Prairie

S. Africa- Veld

C. Asia- Steppe

Australia- Down

Thorny bushes

- These are found in the dry desert like regions.
- Tropical deserts are located on the western margins of the continents.
- The vegetation cover is scarce here because of scanty rain and scorching heat.



Fig. 6.2: Thorny shrubs

Tundra

- The polar region are extremely cold. The growth of natural vegetation is very limited here. Only mosses, lichens and very small shrubs are found here.
- It grows during the very short summer. This vegetation is found in the polar areas of Europe, Asia and North America.
- The animals have thick fur and thick skin to protect themselves from the cold climatic conditions.
- Seal, walruses, musk-oxen, Arctic owl, Polar bear and snow foxes are some of the animals found here.



Polar Bear



Walrus



Seal