

# Fascinating Facts About Grasslands!



People and Planet

Grasslands are usually large areas of flat, open land covered in - yep, you guessed it - grasses! They exist on every continent except Antarctica, and are often found between forests and deserts because they need more rainfall than deserts but not as much as forests, to survive.

A huge variety of wildlife calls grasslands home. In some, enormous elephants graze on the grasses in the hot sun, and in others, impressive birds, like ostriches, search for prey hiding in the grass! The grass itself varies, too - some might be full of delicate wildflowers, while others are like blankets of colour, like red or purple.

Sadly, grasslands are under threat. Some are turned into farmland, while others face threats from illegal hunting, invasive species (non-native species that upset the balance of the ecosystem) and climate change.

**FUN FACT!**  
Grasslands are called different things all over the world! They are also known as prairies, savannas, steppes, and pampas!



Elephants are the world's largest land animal!



Grasslands can be home to hundreds of wildflower species!

**FUN FACT!**  
There are two main kinds of grasslands - tropical and temperate. They vary a lot in temperature and weather!



Bald eagles are found in American grasslands!



Ostriches can grow up to 8.8ft (2.7m) tall!

**Did you know?**

- 25% of the Earth is covered in grasslands!
- Tropical grasslands are found in the Southern Hemisphere, while temperate grasslands are found in the Northern Hemisphere!
- The Eurasian steppe is the largest grassland in the world - it covers one-fifth of the planet!

Thankfully, charities, conservation groups, and people worldwide are working to protect grasslands, and you can help!

- Grow your own!**  
Try making seed balls of wildflower seeds and plant them in your backyard or window box.
- Reduce your impact!**  
Try to live in a way that doesn't harm the planet - drive less, buy less and reuse more!
- Share your knowledge!**  
How much do your friends and family know about grasslands? Tell them about what you've learned!