

THE SAHARA DESERT



SAND DUNES

Deserts are characterized by having sand dunes. Sand dunes are tall piles of sand that are formed by the wind blowing small pieces of sand into a pile. The size of the dunes are constantly changing with the wind.

You can see in the picture above how the wind can make waves in the sand. The wind is very important for forming the features of the desert.



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ABOUT THIS DESERT

The Sahara Desert is found in Northern Africa. It is the third largest desert. The Sahara is a very hot desert and less than 3 inches of rain falls each year.



LIFE IN THE DUNES

Since the sand dunes are constantly moving and changing, it is hard for life to live there. Plants get put their roots in the ground when the sand moves. Animals, though, do call the dunes home. Snakes, like the one pictured left, do very well in the sand dunes. Insects, scorpions, and even big animals like camels and elephants all call the desert home!