



## THE PINELANDS

The Everglades has many **habitats** for plants and animals to call home. One is a kind of forest called the **pinelands**. Although many Everglades habitats are wet, pinelands are not. They are dry habitats because they are found on higher **elevation**.

The pinelands are open, sunny habitats. The only big trees in this habitat are the **slash pines**. The slash pine trees do not grow close together. Their branches do not overlap. Therefore, the forest **canopy** is very open. Sunlight reaches all the way to the forest floor.



The sunny, open pinelands.



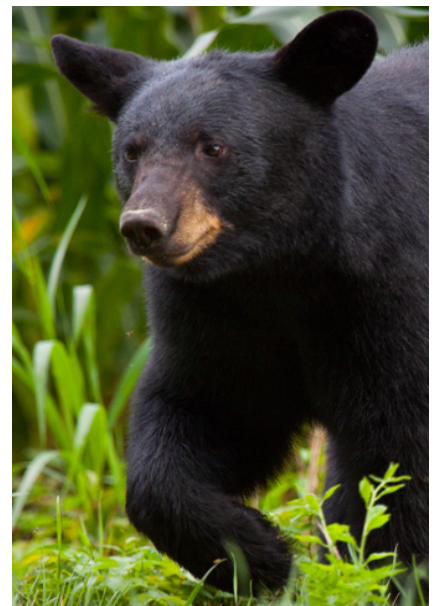
Saw palmetto



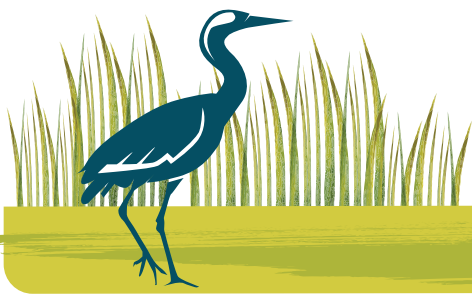
Slash pine

The pinelands are one of the most **diverse** Everglades habitats. The pinelands support hundreds of species of wildflowers and a **wealth** of wildlife.

Between twenty and thirty species of **reptiles** and **amphibians** may be found here. **Mammals** that use pinelands include black bears, Florida panthers, white-tailed deer, and cottontail rabbits. Slash pines provide nesting and **foraging** habitat for many birds. For example, the Bald Eagle prefers adult slash pines to all other trees as a place to build its **massive** nest.



Black bear foraging for food.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Pinelands Questions

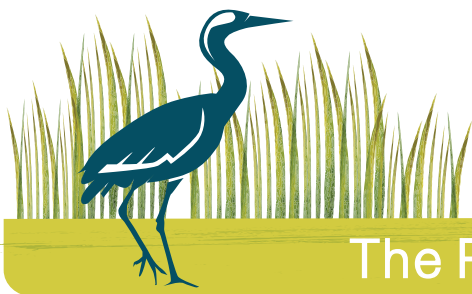
**Directions:** Answer the following questions about the Pinelands habitat in the Everglades.

Remember to use your vocabulary glossary if you need help with a vocabulary word.

### Circle the correct answer

1. What is the main idea of this text?
  - a. The pinelands is a dry habitat.
  - b. The pinelands has many slash pine trees.
  - c. The pinelands is an important habitat.
  - d. The pinelands has fires.
2. What is the meaning of elevation as it is used in this text?
  - a. The height above sea level.
  - b. Raising something above the ground.
  - c. The height of a building.
  - d. The height of the trees.
3. Which sentence from the text explains why the pinelands is a sunny habitat?
  - a. Although, many Everglades habitats are wet, pinelands are not. They are dry habitats because they are found on higher **elevation**.
  - b. The slash pine trees do not grow close together. Their branches do not overlap.
  - c. The pinelands are open, sunny habitats. The only big trees in this habitat are the **slash pines**.
  - d. The pinelands are one of the most **diverse** Everglades habitats. The pinelands support hundreds of species of wildflowers and a wealth of wildlife.
4. What does the author mean by fire-dependent?
  - a. Pinelands like fire.
  - b. Pinelands will not burn.
  - c. Pinelands need to burn.
  - d. Pinelands will not survive fire.
5. What statement supports your answer in question 4?
  - a. The pinelands are a dry habitat.
  - b. The pinelands let sunlight reach the forest floor.
  - c. The pinelands are open, sunny habitats.
  - d. The pinelands must burn to stay healthy.

6. What evidence does the author provide that slash pines are used by many birds?
- a. The pinelands are one of the most **diverse** Everglades habitats.
  - b. The pinelands support hundreds of species of wildflowers and a wealth of wildlife.
  - c. Slash pines provide nesting habitat for many birds.
  - d. Bald Eagles prefer adult slash pines to all other trees as a place to build its nest.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Pinelands Teacher Guide

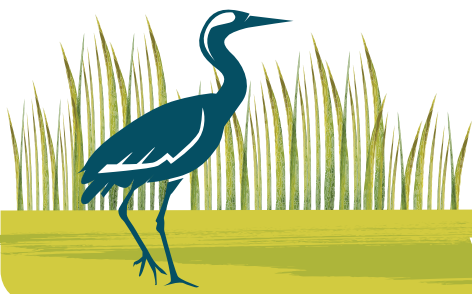
### Standards:

- ELA.3.R.2.2 - Identify the central idea and explain how relevant details support that idea in a text.
- ELA.3.R.3.2 – Summarize a text to enhance comprehension.

1. What is the main idea of this text?
  - a. The pinelands is a dry habitat.
  - b. The pinelands has many slash pine trees.
  - c. **The pinelands is an important habitat.**
  - d. The pinelands has fires.
2. What is the meaning of elevation as it is used in this text?
  - a. **The height above sea level.**
  - b. Raising something above the ground.
  - c. The height of a building.
  - d. The height of the trees.
3. Which sentence from the text explains why the pinelands is a sunny habitat?
  - a. Although, many Everglades habitats are wet, pinelands are not. They are dry habitats because they are found on higher elevation.
  - b. **The slash pine trees do not grow close together. Their branches do not overlap.**
  - c. The pinelands are open, sunny habitats. The only big trees in this habitat are the slash pines.
  - d. The pinelands are one of the most diverse Everglades habitats. The pinelands support hundreds of species of wildflowers and a wealth of wildlife.
4. What does author mean by fire-dependent?
  - a. Pinelands like fire.
  - b. Pinelands will not burn.
  - c. **Pinelands need to burn.**
  - d. Pinelands will not survive fire.



5. What statement supports your answer in question 4?
- a. The pinelands are a dry habitat.
  - b. The pinelands let sunlight reach the forest floor.
  - c. The pinelands are open, sunny habitats.
  - d. **The pinelands must burn to stay healthy.**
6. What evidence does the author provide that slash pines are used by many birds?
- a. The pinelands are one of the most diverse Everglades habitats.
  - b. The pinelands support hundreds of species of wildflowers and a wealth of wildlife.
  - c. **Slash pines provide nesting habitat for many birds.**
  - d. Bald Eagles prefer adult slash pines to all other trees as a place to build its nest.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Vocabulary Glossary

Use the glossary below to look up the vocabulary words from the habitat factsheets.

### Vocabulary for Pinelands

Amphibian	Cold-blooded vertebrate animals (as frogs and toads) that have gills and live in water as young but breathe air as adults
Canopy	A protective covering: such as the uppermost spreading branchy layer of a forest
Diverse	Made up of people or things that are different from each other
Fire-Dependent	A habitat that needs to burn from time to time in order to stay healthy
Elevation	The height above the level of the sea
Forage	To search for something (such as food or supplies)
Mammal	A warm-blooded animal with a backbone that feeds its young with milk produced by the mother and has skin with hair
Massive	Very large, heavy, and solid
Overlap	To place or be placed so that a part of one covers a part of another
Pinelands	A dry habitat naturally dominated by pine forests found on higher ground
Reptiles	A cold-blooded animal that breathes air and usually has skin covered with dry scales or bony plates
Slash Pine	The kind of pine tree that dominates the pinelands of the Everglades with shiny, deep green needles
Wealth	A great amount or number