**Plants**
(at least 10)

cactus
cholla
brittle bush
ironwood
Joshua tree
aster
ocotillo
yucca
saguaro
aloe vera

**Adaptations**

Many of the plants have shallow roots to catch as much rain as possible.

The plants have adapted to grow very quickly when there is rain and then go partially dormant when it is dry.

Some of the plants can store water.

**Animals**
(at least 10)

snakes
owls
bats
scorpions
small mammals
camels
foxes
tarantulas
tortoise
gila monster

**Adaptations**

The animals must be able to go long periods of time without water.

Many of the insects and animals stay underground or in the shade during the day and come out at night.

Animals get a lot of their water from the insects and fruit they eat.
Interactions

biotic:
Many insects to supply small mammals but not enough food for very many large animals.

abiotic:
Flash floods help to create water sources for animals.

the hot daytime temperatures influence the behavior of the animals.

Geography

location:
southern North America, South America, Northern Africa, Australia, and Central Asia

description:
Some are large and flat, others have huge sand dunes.

soil type:
sand

Climate

precipitation amount per year:
1 - 12 inches (.25-30 cm)

temperature range:
32 to 140° F (0 to 60°C)

climate:
very little rain, some are very hot during the day and cold at night, some stay hot