

Habitats of Georgia

<p style="text-align: center;">Piedmont</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gently rolling hills• Warm in summer; cool in winter• Located in the central part of the state.• Rivers are muddy and move slow.• Contains freshwater rivers/streams.• Animals: muscues, bobcat, warbler, striped bass, squirrels, dear, otter, beaver,	<p style="text-align: center;">Mountain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Area of high land.• Located in the Northern part of the state.• Cool and windy; can be wet.• Soil changes with elevation. Moist at the bottom, dry at the top.• Rivers are cold, clear, and rocky.• Freshwater streams/rivers.• Animals: wild pig, black, bear, otter, squirrels,• The fur and claws of a black bear help it to survive in a mountain habitat.
<p style="text-align: center;">Swamp</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wetland with trees and woody plants.• Can have fresh water and salt water.• Okefenokee is the largest swamp in North America.• Only certain plants and animals can live in a marsh because of its extreme conditions.• Some plants in the swamp trap and eat small animals.• Wading birds live in the swamp.• Alligators, wading birds, butterflies, turtles, shellfish, frogs, and some fish live in the swamp.	<p style="text-align: center;">Marsh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wetland with grass and soft stem plants.• Can have fresh water and salt water.• Freshwater marshes are found near rivers, lakes, and streams.• Saltwater marshes are found near the coast and ocean waters.• Near the ocean freshwater mixes with salt water to create <i>estuaries</i>.• Cordgrass is the most common type of marsh grass.• Fish, snails, crabs, and mussels use salt marshes for shelter.• As water moves through marshes, harmful materials are filtered out.• Animals: Turtles, muskrats, cranes, rabbits, fish.
<p style="text-align: center;">Coastal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The barrier islands (14 in Georgia) lie between the ocean and the estuaries.• Barrier islands protect the coast from damaging wind and waves. The islands are reshaped all the time by the forces of wind, waves, and tides.• The coast is made up of sandy beaches.• Sandbars are found off the coast in shallow water.• Sand dunes are mounds of sand formed by wind and moving water (reshaped by wind and water).• Animals: birds, animals that burrow in the sand, loggerhead turtles, and ghost crabs, mice, rabbits.• Home to sea oats. Sea oats trap sand and hold it in place.	<p style="text-align: center;">Ocean</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The ridge of rock on the ocean bottom (gently sloping land) is called the continental shelf.• The continental shelf has two kinds of habitats: sandy bottom habitat and live-bottom habitat or reef.• Many living organisms grow attached to reefs.• A reef is a ridge of rock on the ocean bottom. Sponges and coral attach to the rock surface.• Animals: fish, turtles, whales, crabs, lobsters, sea stars, and shrimp.