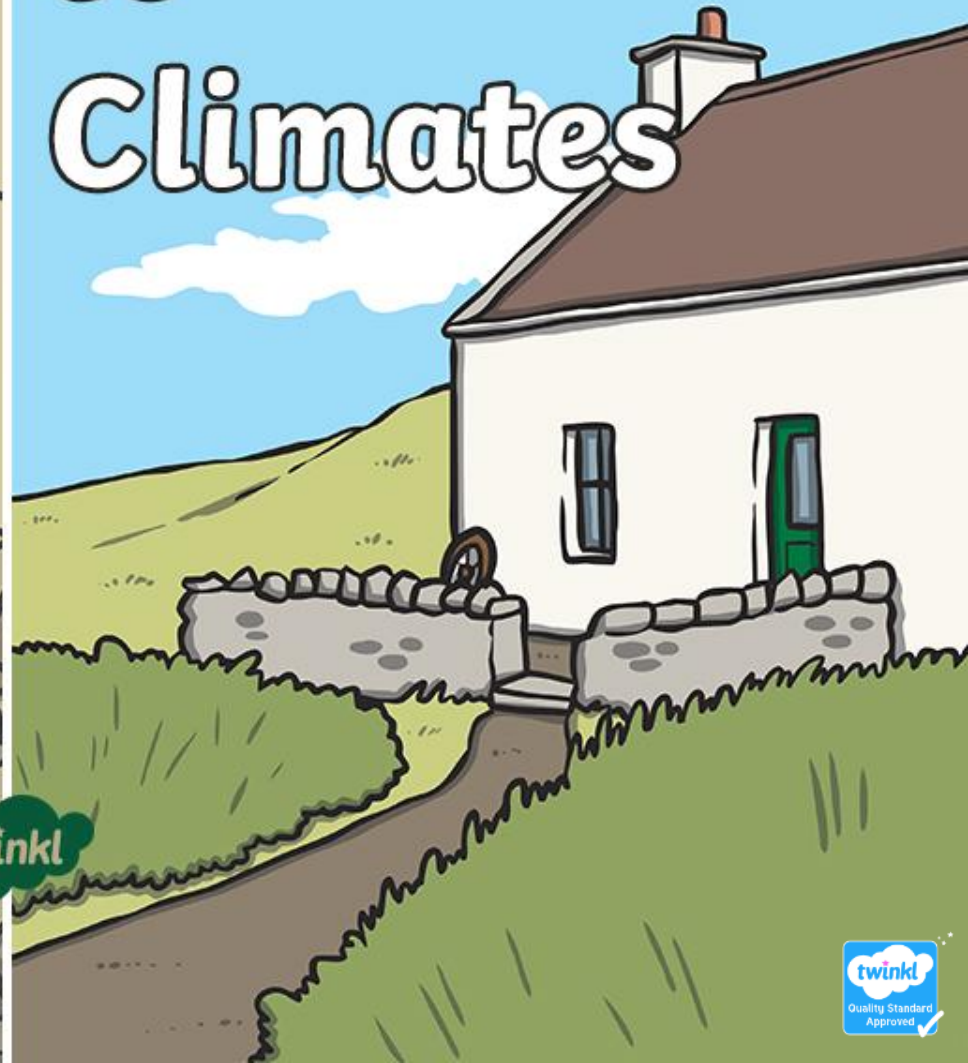


Homes Adapted



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to Climates



Homes Adapted to Climates



People from around the world build their houses differently depending on the climate of the country that they live in.

The climate in Britain and Europe is quite mild and so most people live in houses.

Homes Adapted to Climates



Some countries are very hot, some have severe floods, and some are very cold.



The houses in these countries are adapted to suit the weather conditions.

Greenland

It is very cold and snowy in Greenland. The Inuit people build igloos out of snow to live in because they are good insulators. Even though it is extremely cold outside, the igloos stay warm inside.

There is only one room in an igloo for the whole family to sleep and live in.



Kenya

It is very hot in Kenya, but they also have very heavy rain. Therefore, their houses need to be waterproof. The Maasai cover their roofs with cow dung and are called Inkajijik.

The rest of the house is built with twigs, mud, and leaves. The whole family live in one room together.



Switzerland

In the winter months, Switzerland has heavy snow and is a popular skiing destination.

Chalets in Switzerland have a sloped roof and huge eaves that snow can slide and fall off easily.



New Guinea

The Korowai tribe of New Guinea build their amazing tree houses high up to avoid the life-threatening floods and biting insects of the rainforest.

They can easily reach up to 90 feet.



Tunisia

It is so hot in Tunisia in Africa, that some people live underground, because it is cooler!

They dig deep into the ground and then build the walls using clay, dung, and dirt.



Vietnam

People live in houses built on stilts to avoid water damage. In Vietnam, stilt houses have two doors. The one on the right is called a Quam. The one on the left is called a Cham. Visiting men use the Quam and women use the Cham. Members of the family can use either door.



Australia

Australia is such a large country that the climate varies from place to place. However, most houses (especially in the south) will have air conditioning to keep residents cool. To make the most of the sunshine, millions of homes in Australia are now being fitted with solar panels which use the sun's energy to provide the house with electricity.



Why do you think this house is so white?

Indigenous Australians

The indigenous people of Australia used to build houses out of natural resources to provide them with shelter from the hot sun in the day and from the cold at night. Temporary homes were made from light materials such as bark, vine, light sticks, and palm leaves. More permanent structures were made out of heavier materials such as hard wood, twine, and even mud.

Gunyas (one name for a traditional Aboriginal home) would usually have a fire outside to drive away snakes, mosquitoes, and other insects as well as to keep people warm.



What materials do you think were used to build this gunya?

Busy Cities



In busy, built up cities such as London and Amsterdam, lots of people live on boathouses. Although it is not due to the climate, people have to adapt to the busy environment in which they live. There is just not enough space on land for everyone so living on the water is the next option!

