9 Plants around the world

Plants are successful at growing in different conditions around the world.

If you were to take a journey from the icy wastes of the North Pole to the hot rainy lands near the equator, you would see many different kinds of plant.

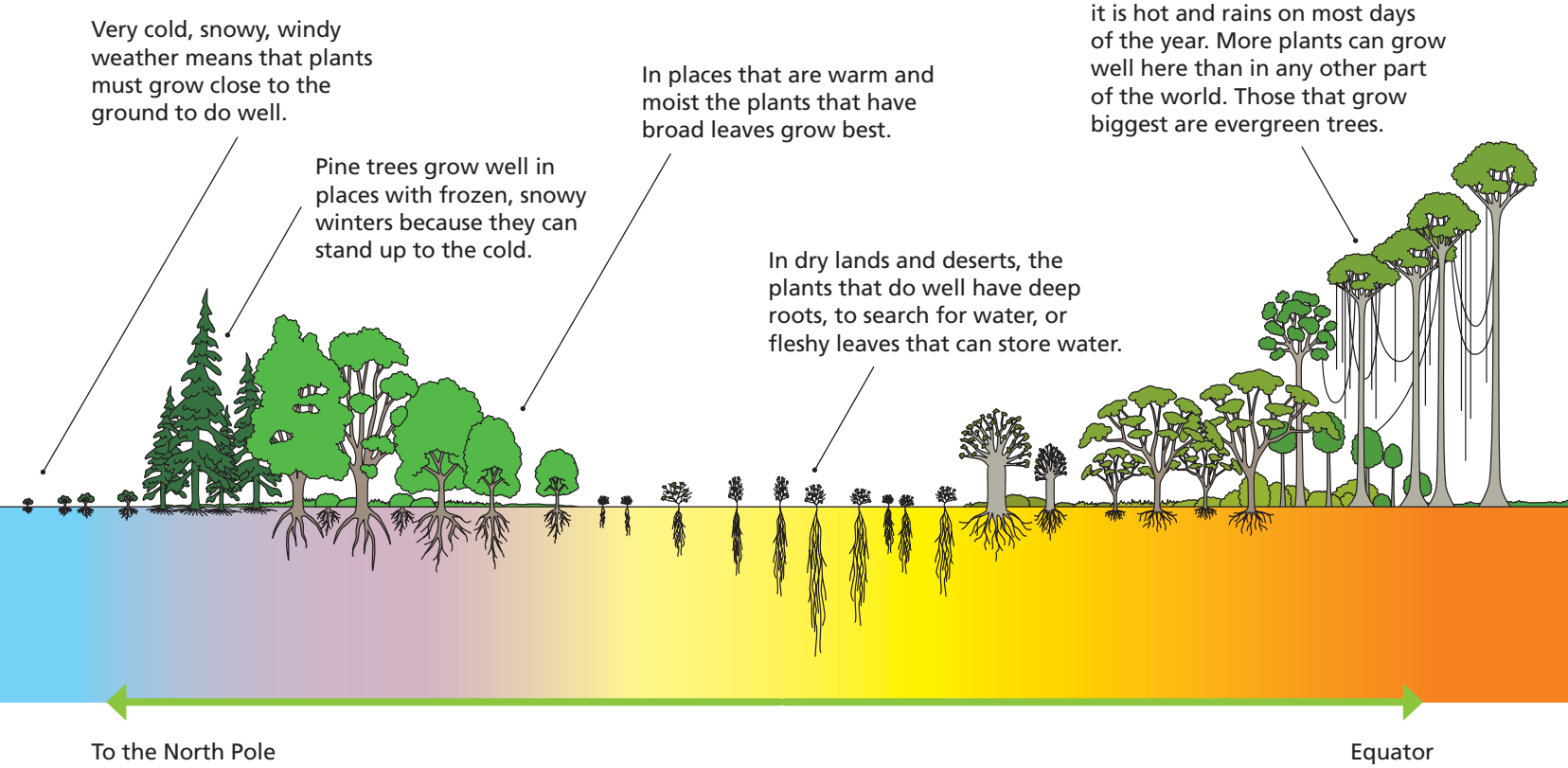
Different conditions suit different kinds of plant, as you can see in Picture 1. Near the North Pole it is always cold – often freezing, sometimes snowy. Near the equator it is warm and rain falls all year long.

In each place you would find plants that can get everything they need to grow well from the place where they grow. But if you took one of these plants and put it in a different part of the world, the chances are that it would die.

Summary

- **Different plants grow well in different parts of the world.**
- **Plants that grow well in one part of the world may not succeed in other parts.**

(Picture 1) Each part of the world has its own kinds of plants that grow well.



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Alpines grow on mountains and in icy wastes. They grow close to the ground on poor, rocky soil.

Heathers grow on moorlands where the soil is damp and cool.

Look carefully at this picture. If you look up the trunk of the tropical palm tree you will see a Swiss cheese plant! Its roots grow down in search of nourishment.

Cacti grow in deserts, where it is hot and the rainfall is unreliable.

Bromeliads are tropical plants that live on rocks or in trees. They use their roots less than most plants and instead take nourishment from water that falls in the centre of their leaves.