

For Release
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What are deserts? They are known as barren wastes, or places that can not support a community, and so it is natural to think of deserts as places with little or no rainfall. But strangely enough, rainfall alone does not determine a desert. In the tundras of the north, with less than 10 inches of rain, the soil is marshy and waterlogged in summer. Some places with 10 inches falling at the right time produce crops of wheat, while others with 20 inches on a sun-baked soil grow nothing, due to the rapid run-off. Then there are thirsty soils so porous that all the rains sink in, leaving none for plants. So deserts are the result of a number of factors. -----