

# Swamp Things!

# Answers

## The Swamp: A Freshwater AND a Marine Biome



Some made-up stories have made people think that monsters live in swamps! The truth is, there are no swamp monsters, and many fascinating plants and animals call the swamp their home. Swamps are a type of wetland. Swamps are areas of land that have been permanently saturated, or filled up, by water. Swamps are usually found in warm, wet climates, and are characterized by being heavily forested. The thick, black, nutrient-rich soil in swamps can support the growth of water-tolerant trees and shrubs. Some swamp creatures live below the surface, and some live on the soft, spongy land that surrounds the swamp. Other swamp animals, such as alligators and nutrias, spend time both in and out of the swamp, depending on the time of day and activity. Many plants, fish, birds, and invertebrates, like freshwater shrimp, clams, and crayfish, and the American Crocodile, require the swamp's particular ecosystem to remain balanced to ensure their survival. Swamps are usually freshwater environments, but some saltwater swamps can be found connected to tropical coastlines.

**Directions:** Put the names of these wetland plants in alphabetical order.

cattail  
Silver Maple  
Winterberry Holly  
Marsh Marigold  
bulrush  
Water Lily  
duckweed  
pondweed  
Red Maple  
cranberry shrub

bulrush  
cattail  
cranberry shrub  
duckweed  
Marsh Marigold  
pondweed  
Red Maple  
Silver Maple  
Water Lily  
Winterberry Holly

**WATER**