

11. A great part of Arabia is desert. Here there is nothing but sand and rock. The sand is so hot that you cannot walk over it with your bare feet in the daytime. Here and there in the desert are springs of water that come from deep down under the ground—so deep that the sun cannot dry them up. These springs are few and far apart, but wherever there is one, trees grow tall and graceful, making a cool, green, shady place around the spring. Such a place is called an oasis.



The Arabs who are not in the cities live in the desert all the year round. They live in tents that can be put up and taken down very easily and quickly so that they can move from one oasis to another, seeking grass and water for their sheep, goats, camels and horses. These desert Arabs eat ripe, sweet figs, and also the dates that grow upon the palm trees ; they dry them, too, and use them as food all the year round.

These Arabs have the finest horses in the world. An Arab is very proud of his riding horse, and loves him almost as much as he loves his wife and children. He never puts heavy loads upon his horse, and often lets him stay in the tent with his family.

The camel is much more useful to the Arab than his beautiful horse, however, for he is much larger and stronger. One camel can carry as much as or more than two horses. The Arab loads the camel with goods and rides him, too, for miles and miles across the desert—just as if he were really the "Ship of the Desert," which he is often called.

Desert Dwellers of Arab

Hot deserts form a large part of Arab region, where there are few springs of water surrounded by tall trees. These springs are located at a huge distance from each other. Many Arabs are the dwellers of deserts, living in tents who move from place to place in search of water and food for their animals. Moreover, they rely largely on palm trees' dates for food. They have some of the best horses of the world, loved and treated like their family. However, they use camels to carry heavy loads and ~~to~~ travel large distances across the desert.

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