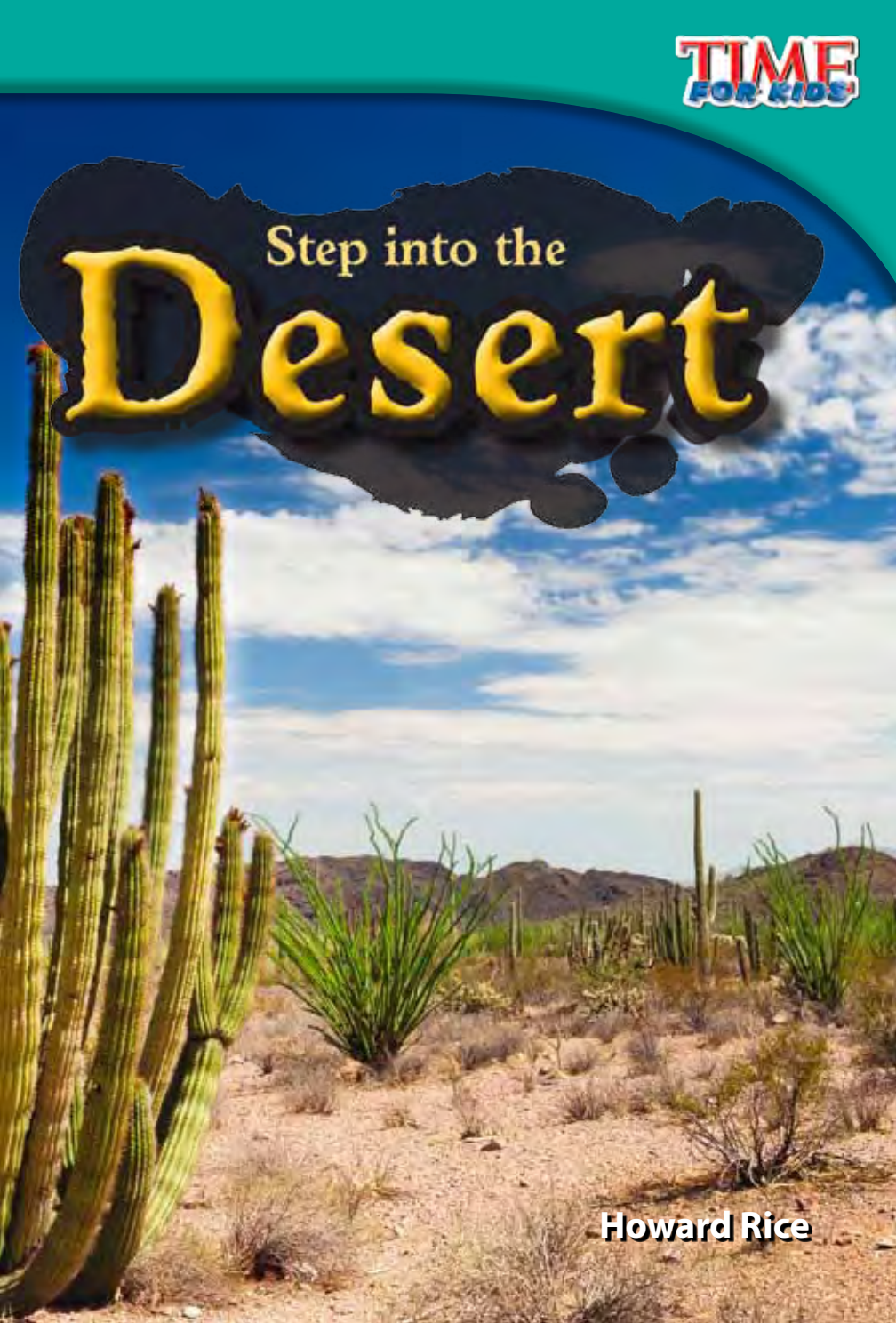

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Howard Rice

Consultant

Timothy Rasinski, Ph.D.
Kent State University

Publishing Credits

Dona Herweck Rice, *Editor-in-Chief*
Robin Erickson, *Production Director*
Lee Aucoin, *Creative Director*
Conni Medina, M.A.Ed., *Editorial Director*
Jamey Acosta, *Editor*
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Where Are You?



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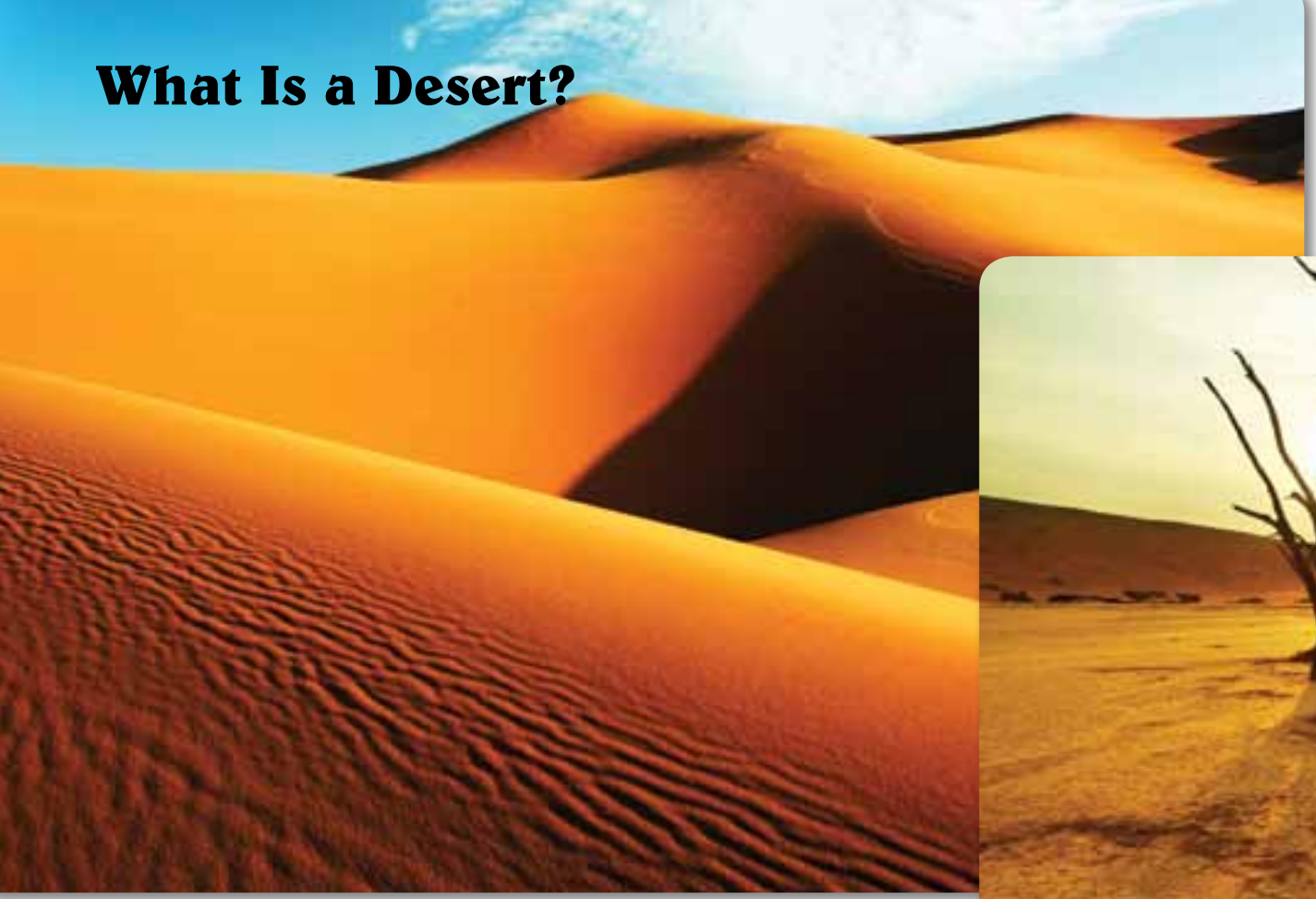
Look around. The sky is big and blue. The ground is dry and bare. Hills of sand cross the land as far as you can see. In the distance, a string of camels walks slowly in the rising sun. It is hot and getting hotter.



Where are you?
You are in a **desert**, of course!

What Is a Desert?

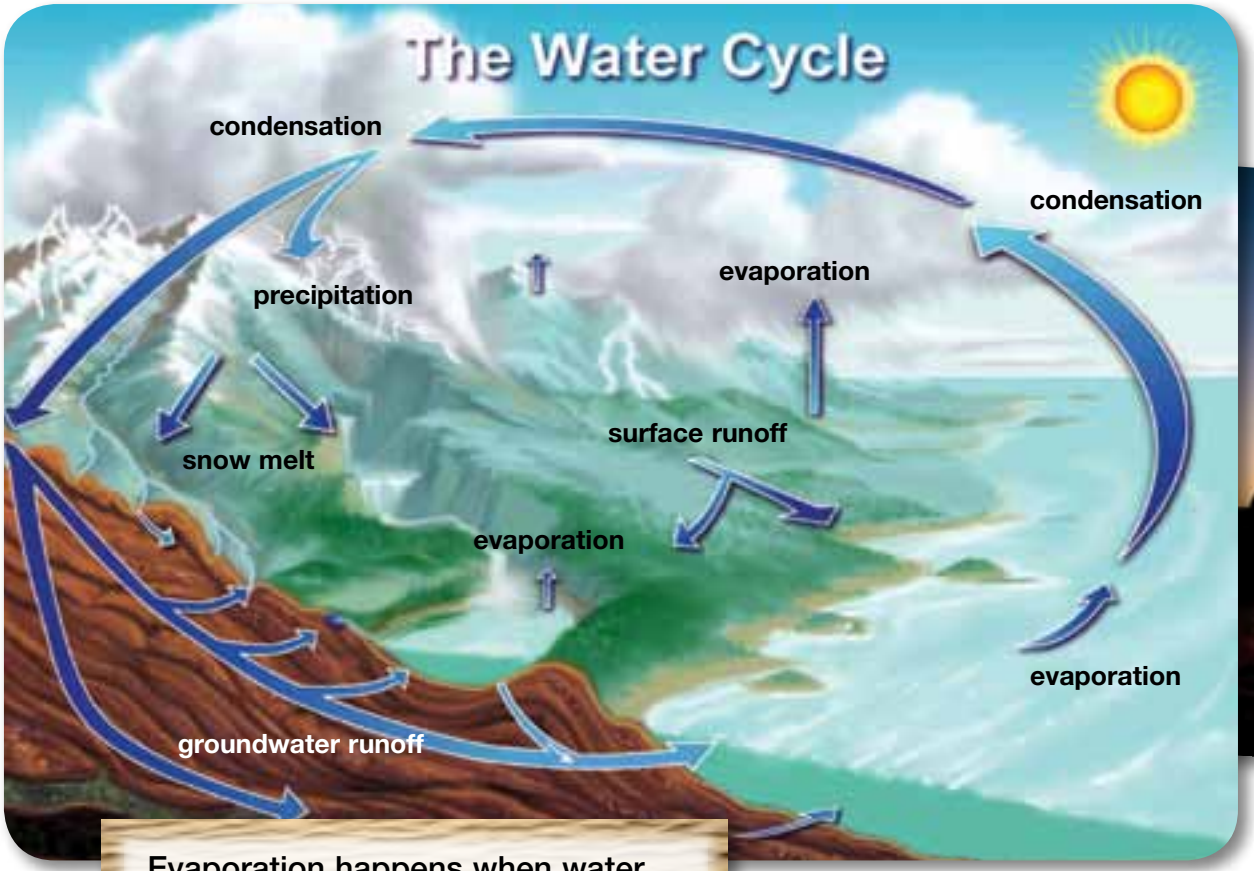
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A desert is an area of land with very little rain and, most of the time, high temperatures during the day.

In a desert, there is less than 10 inches of rain each year. The ground is usually dry.



Evaporation happens when water changes from a liquid and becomes **vapor** in the air.

Whenever it rains in a desert, the heat of the sun dries up most of the water. This is called **evaporation** (ih-vap-uh-REY-shuhn).



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One reason for evaporation is the high temperatures. Desert nights can be cold because during the night the ground releases its heat. But during the day, the ground soaks up the heat.