

Gee, the Heat Rages!

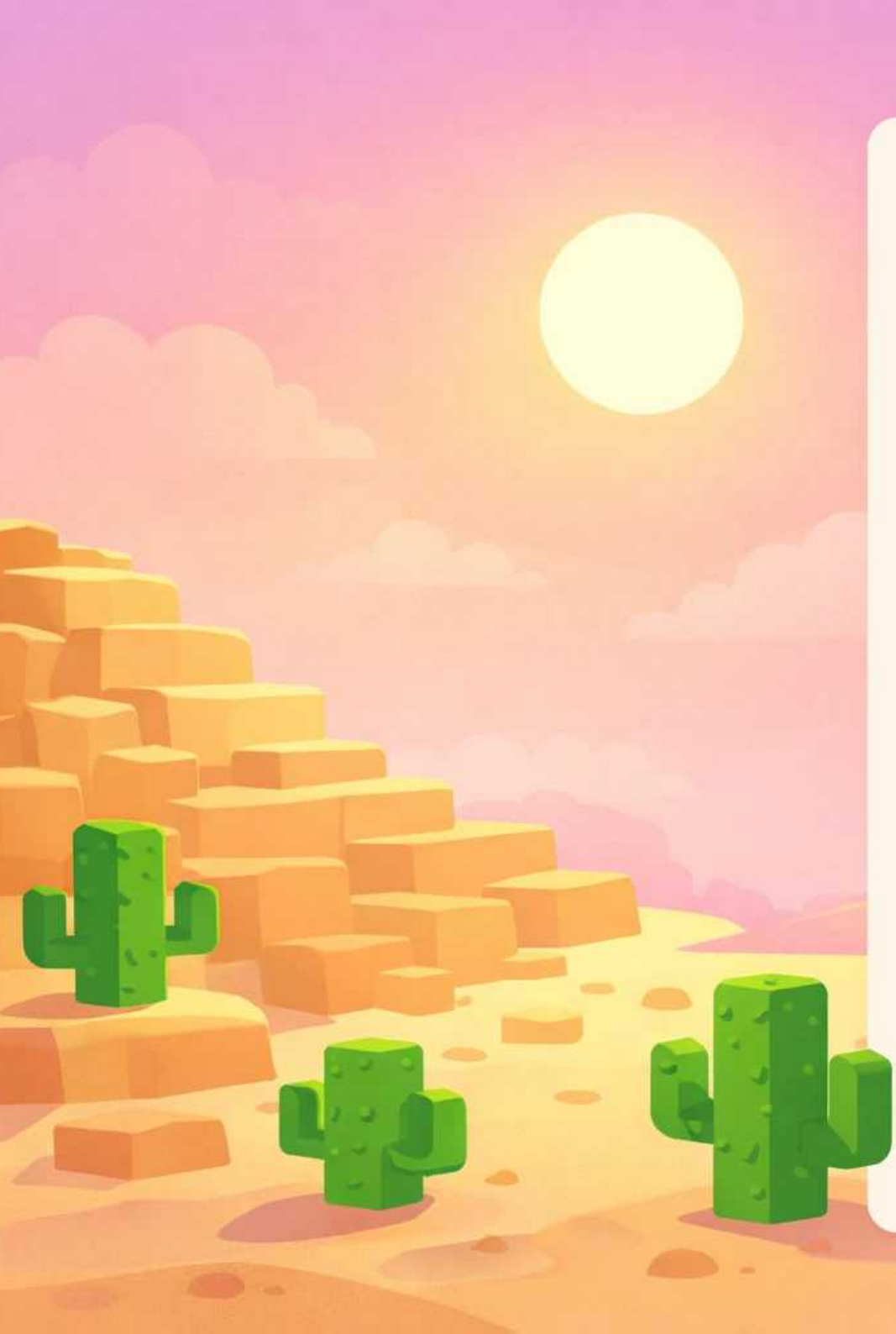




A desert is a vast land. Sand and sandstone go on as far as you can see. The sun shines bright, and the sky is blue all day. Just a few plants live here. You can spot an odd dry shrub, but not much more. It is a **strange**, vast place.

At midday the heat **rages**. Many desert animals hide in the shade. It is not safe to trek in such strong sunshine. The Minecraft figure stands still with a dry plant in hand. Even husks keep still when the sun blazes up high.

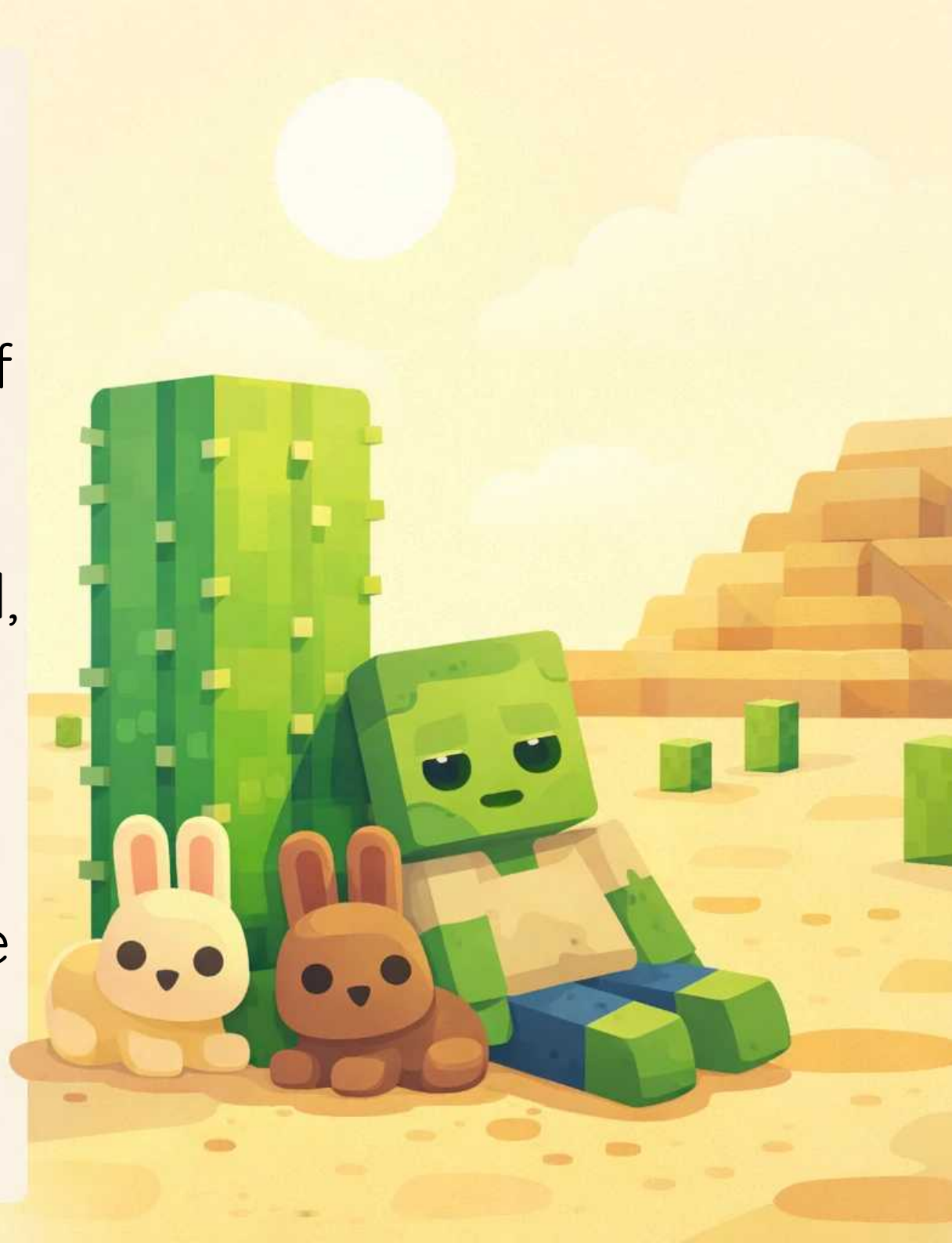




Water is very hard to get in a desert. There are no lakes or ponds in many desert lands. With no water, it is hard to farm or live for long.

The desert is **huge** and the sun is harsh. Make a plan before a trek.

Desert animals save **energy** in a smart way. In the hot part of the day, they rest in the shade. They lie still, so they use less water and stay cool. **Gee,** real desert animals live like this too!

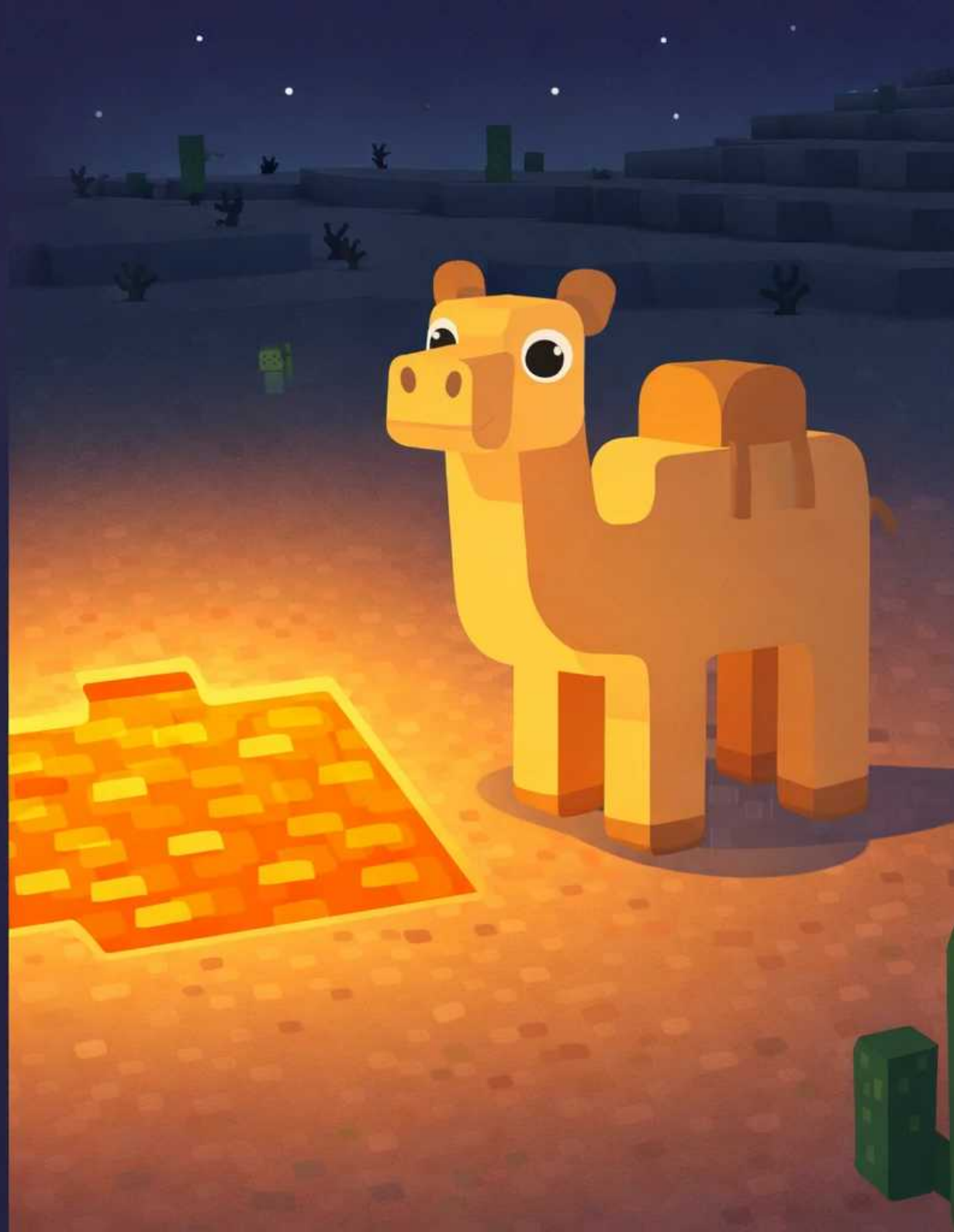




Sand, sand, and more sand! The dunes all **merge** into one vast sandy sea, so it is easy to get lost. There are no trees or lakes to keep you on track.

Bring a map before you set off. A map is a **huge** help.

When the sun sets, the desert turns cold fast. There are no trees or clouds to keep in the heat, and a **huge** chill sets in. A hot pool glows in the sand, and Camel stands by it to keep off the chill. Real deserts burn hot by day but can freeze at night!





The desert hides **strange** and grand things.

Sandstone **villages** have handy loot and food.

Secret chambers deep in the sand hide chests with **gems** inside.

Giant bone blocks lie beneath the sand as well. What a place to dig!

Deserts lack rain. In harsh real deserts, no rain can fall for **ages** and **ages**.

Each plant and animal that lives there has a way to store water inside its body.

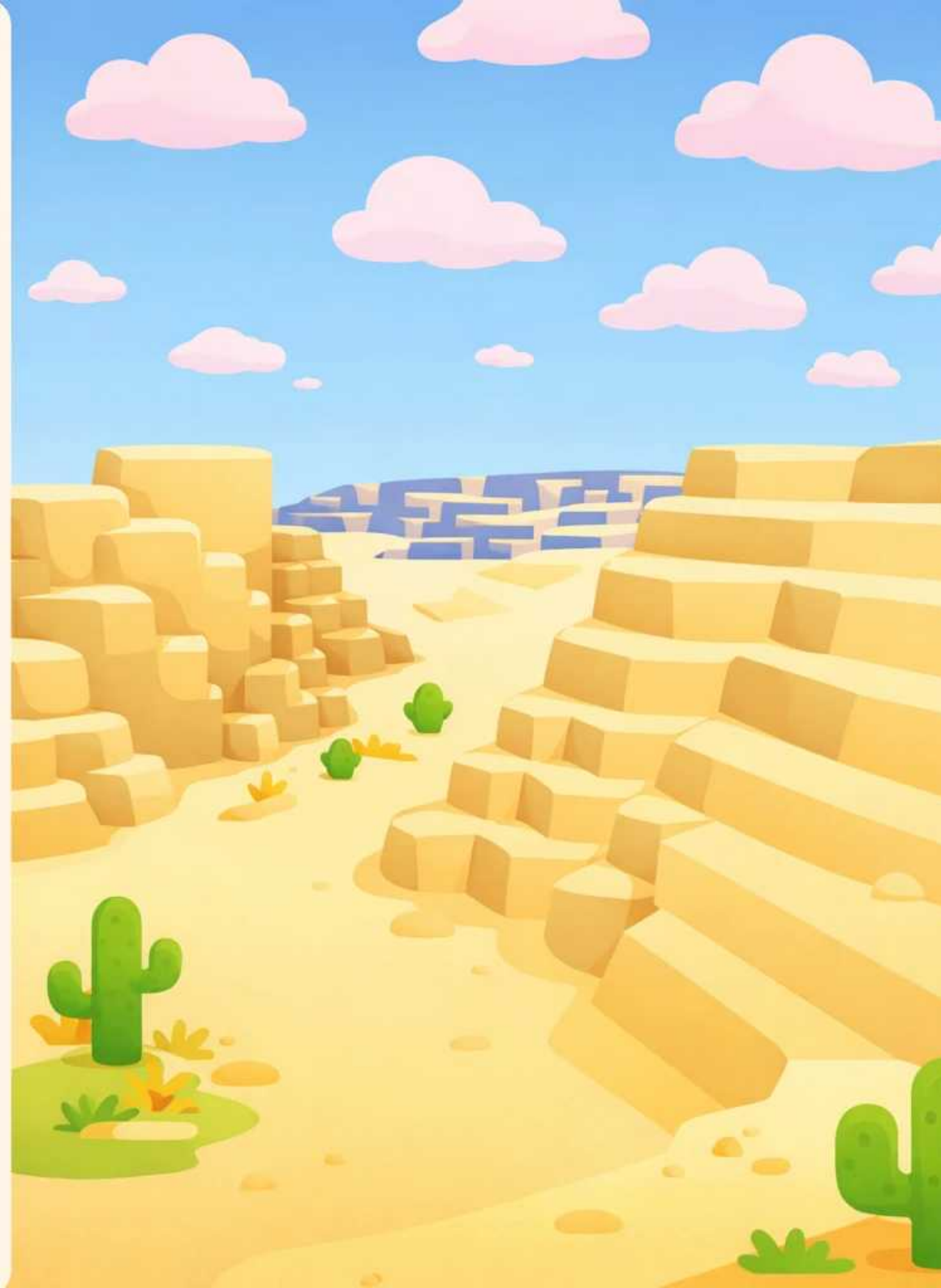




In Minecraft and in real life, deserts have **villages**. The homes use sand, sandstone, and wood from the land all around. Real desert homes have thick walls to stay cool. To get water, dig a well with a **large**, deep drop.

Deserts grow in real life.
When trees are cut down
and farmland is used too
much, the soil turns to dry
dust. Bit by bit, the sand
takes **charge**.

Planting trees and keeping
soil safe can stop the **surge**
of sand. That is a **change**
we can all help make.





Gee, the Heat Rages!

A vast desert stretches out in every direction, hiding villages, hidden chambers, and buried treasure beneath the blazing sun. When night falls, the heat vanishes fast and the cold rushes in, but by day, everything from lazy rabbits to Minecraft husks fights to survive the rages of the sun. Can anyone find water, find shelter, and stay safe until the desert changes again? Written for Jolly Phonics classrooms (Step 3, Unit 3: soft g as in giant), this book practices words like 'huge', 'ages', 'strange', 'villages', 'charge'.

Phonics Focus: <soft> <g>

ages, change, charge, energy, gee, gems, giant, huge, large, merge, rages, strange, surge, villages

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