



**RED NOSE DAY**  
**FUNNY IS POWER**  
18 March 2022

# Salt Lakes with Flo



Flo and her flamingo friends love salt water and can therefore be found around the world on lagoons and mudflats next to the sea and even inland salt lakes where the salt content is high. Wow! They love this type of habitat as it provides them with loads of tiny shrimp, insect larvae and crustaceans, which they sift out with their awesome bills.

It's a very exposed habitat to live in, so they need to be on the watch for predators all the time. They also need to make sure they choose a good place for a mud nest, somewhere that won't get washed away by rising tides.

**Let's learn more about Flo and her super unique habitat.**

## Facts about salt lakes

1. The biggest salt lakes or salt flats are the El Salar de Uyuni lakes of Bolivia.
2. They are found high up in the Andes mountains, not the first place you think about when you think of a flamingo!
3. Flamingos love this area because there are very few fish to compete with for food.

Mud nest



Salt lake edge



4. Flamingos also love the saltmarshes in coastal areas like the Mediterranean.
5. Plants that like to live in these salty areas are called halophytes.
6. Saltmarshes and salt lakes look like they're too muddy or salty to live in, but in fact they are very important ecosystems and are home to species of fish, crustaceans, and snails.

Clumpy vegetation



7. Because of this, these habitats are super important for birds, especially birds belonging to a huge group called waders, that use their special beaks to sift through the mud.
8. The brighter an adult flamingo's feathers are, the more well-fed the flamingo is.
9. A flock of flamingos is called a flamboyance of flamingos!
10. There are six species of flamingos on the planet.

**Now it's your turn! What habitat do you want to build for your favourite Red Nose? Get your school involved in fundraising for Red Nose Day this year. Go to [comicroelief.com/schools](https://comicroelief.com/schools) for tips and resources to make it easier than ever to take part.**

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