

Ecosystems and Biomes ▪ *Guided Reading and Study*

Biomes

This section describes several different biomes, or groups of similar ecosystems, that are found on planet Earth. The section also tells where the different biomes are located.

Use Target Reading Skills

As you read, compare and contrast the different biomes by completing the table below.

Characteristic	Temperate Rain Forest	Tropical Rain Forest	Desert	Grass-land	Deciduous Forest	Boreal Forest	Tundra
Temperature	Warm all year						
Precipitation							
Typical Organisms							

Introduction

1. A group of land ecosystems with similar climates and organisms is called a(n) _____.
2. Is the following sentence true or false? It is mostly the climate conditions in an area that determine its biome. _____

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Biomes *(continued)*

Rain Forest Biomes

3. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about tropical rain forests.

- a. They are found only in Africa and South America.
- b. They receive a lot of rainfall and sunlight year-round.
- c. They contain a limited number of species.
- d. They are much warmer in some seasons than in others.

4. The tall trees in a tropical rain forest form a leafy roof called the _____.

5. How do temperate rain forests differ from tropical rain forests?

6. Where are some temperate rain forests located?

Desert Biomes

7. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about deserts.

- a. They receive less than 10 centimeters of rain per year.
- b. They have more evaporation than precipitation.
- c. They are always hot.
- d. They have extreme temperatures.

Grassland Biomes

8. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about grasslands.

- a. They have many trees.
- b. They have rich soil.
- c. They receive more than 75 centimeters of rain each year.
- d. They are home to many of the largest animals on Earth.

9. Grasslands that are located closer to the equator than prairies are called _____.

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Deciduous Forest Biomes

10. Trees that shed their leaves and grow new ones each year are called _____.
11. Circle the letter of the sentence that is true about deciduous forests.
- a. They receive at least 50 centimeters of rain each year.
 - b. Their temperatures are constant throughout the year.
 - c. Their growing season usually lasts for 10 months.
 - d. They contain very few habitats.

Boreal Forest Biomes

12. What type of trees are found in a boreal forest?

13. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about boreal forests.
- a. They are farther north than deciduous forests.
 - b. They have very cold winters.
 - c. They receive little snow.
 - d. Their most common species of trees are fir, spruce, and hemlock.

Tundra Biomes

14. An extremely cold, dry, land biome is the _____.
15. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about the tundra.
- a. It may receive no more precipitation than a desert.
 - b. Most of its soil is frozen all year.
 - c. Its plants include mosses and dwarf trees.
 - d. Its only animals are insects and birds.

Mountains and Ice

16. Is the following sentence true or false? If you hiked to the top of a tall mountain, you would pass through a series of biomes.

17. What are some organisms adapted to life on the ice?

