

Y6 Climates and Biomes

Quick Summary



A **biome** is a natural area of plants and animals. The world is divided into lots of different biomes and they are all different depending on their climate.

Since **climate** determines the type of vegetation that grows in an area, vegetation is used as an indicator of **climate** type. A **climate** type and its plants and animals make up a **biome**. The organisms of a **biome** share certain characteristics around the world, because their environment has similar advantages and challenges.



Types of Biomes:

Forest Forest biomes are home to a variety of trees and other plants. They cover about 30% of our Earth's surface and are extremely important to our ecosystem as they store carbon and provide many materials that we use.

Grassland The majority of this biome is made up of a variety of grasses with very few trees or large plants. The two main types of grasslands found are 'tall-grass' (humid and wet), and 'short-grass' (dry). This biome is very popular for farming due to the rich soil.

Aquatic This is the largest biome out there, covering nearly 75% of our planet and can be divided into two main categories: freshwater and saltwater.

Desert These biomes cover about one fifth of our planet and are extremely dry areas. Depending on their location, they can be either hot or cold. Plants and animals have evolved over time to adapt to the harsh environment.

Rainforest Home to a variety of tropical plants and animals and found in regions that are warm all year round. Unfortunately, rainforests now cover less than 6% of our planet but still produce about 40% of our oxygen.

Tundra This is the coldest biome and therefore has little plant and animal variety. Tundra biomes cover approximately one fifth of the Earth's surface.



Physical Features

What is a 'Bay'? A dent or curve in the coastline. What is a 'cape'? A piece of high land that goes into the sea (the opposite of a bay) What is a 'Mountain range'? A group or line of mountains. What is a 'Mountain peak'? The highest point at the top of a mountain. What is a 'Hill'? A higher area that is not as large as a mountain. What is a 'Valley'? A low area between hills or mountains.

Aspirations and career links to Geography:

Meteorologists, Reporters, Oceanographers, Postsecondary Atmospheric, Earth, Marine and Space Science, Environmental Scientists and Specialists. Solar Photovoltaic Installers. Atmospheric Scientists. Wind Turbine Technicians. Environmental Engineers.



Location



Physical features



Human features



Diversity



Physical processes



Human processes



Techniques