

Chapter 6: Biomes

Section 1, What is a Biome?

What is a Biome?

- Biomes are large regions characterized by a _____

- The _____ of a region determines what type of biome can exist in that region.
- Each biome is made up of many individual _____.
 - Communities within the biome have adapted to the small differences in climate and the environment inside the biome.
- Major biomes include deserts, forests, grasslands, tundra, and several types of aquatic environments.

More on Biomes

- All living things are _____ to their environment.
- Any change in one part of an environment, like an _____ of a species of animal or plant, causes a _____ of change in other parts of the environment.
- Remember, each organism depends in some way on other living and nonliving things in its surroundings.

To understand a world biome, you need to know the following:

- What the _____ of the region is like
- Where each biome is _____ and what its _____ is like.
- The special _____ of the vegetation.
- The types of animals found in the biome and their _____ adaptations to their environment.

Biomes and Vegetation

- Biomes are described by their _____ because plants that grow in an area _____ that can live there.
- Plants in a particular biome have _____ that allow the plants to survive in that biome.
- These adaptations include _____.
 - For example, plants in the tundra tend to be short because they cannot obtain enough water to grow larger.

Biomes and Climate

- _____ is the average weather conditions in an area over a long period of time.

- Climate is the _____ factor is determining which plants can grow in a certain area, which in turn defines the biome.
- _____ are the two most important factors that determine a region's climate.

Temperature and Precipitation

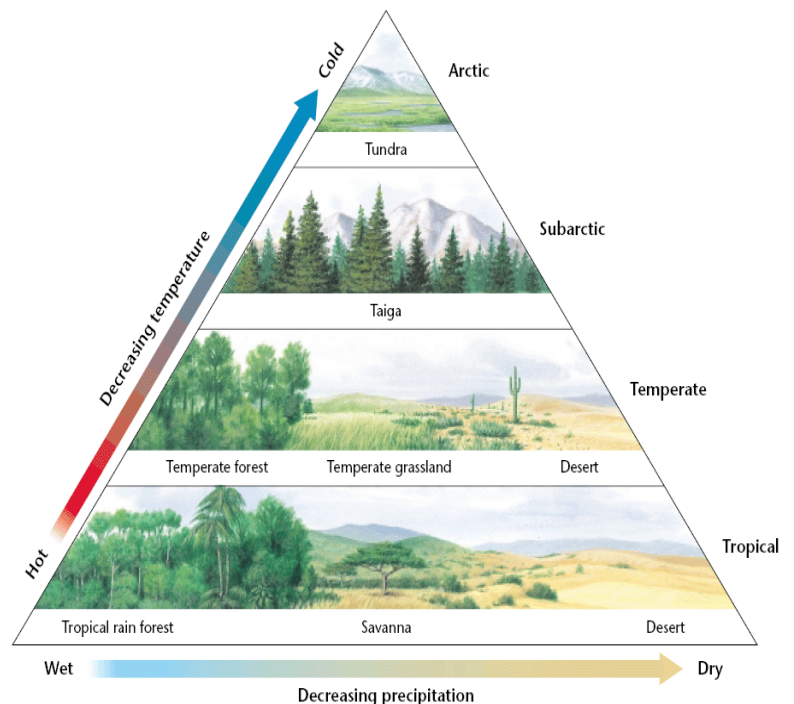
- Most organisms are adapted to live within a particular range of temperatures and will not survive at temperatures too far above or below their range.
- Precipitation also _____ the organisms that can be found in a biome because all organisms need water, and the bigger the animal, the more water it needs.

Temperature and Precipitation

- Biomes that do not receive enough rainfall to support large trees support communities _____ by small trees, shrubs, and grasses.
- In biomes where rainfall is not frequent, the vegetation is mostly _____.
- In extreme cases, _____ results in no plants, no matter what the temperature is.
- The _____ the temperature and precipitation are, the _____ the vegetation is.

Latitude and Altitude

- _____ is the distance north or south from the equator, and is expressed in degrees.
- _____ is the height of an object above a reference point, such as sea level or the Earth's surface.
- Climate _____ with latitude and altitude.
- For example, climate gets _____ as _____ latitude and altitude _____ . This is why it gets colder as you move further up a mountain.



Latitude and Altitude

- As latitude and altitude _____, biomes and vegetation _____.
- Trees of tropical rainforests usually grow closer to the _____, while mosses and lichen of the tundra grow closer to the _____.
- The temperate region includes biomes such as _____, which usually have moderate temperatures and fertile soil that is ideal for agriculture.

