

Ecosystems and Biomes ▪ *Guided Reading and Study*

Biomes and Aquatic Ecosystems

This section describes several different biomes, or groups of similar ecosystems. 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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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 few 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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Biomes and Aquatic Ecosystems *(continued)*

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.

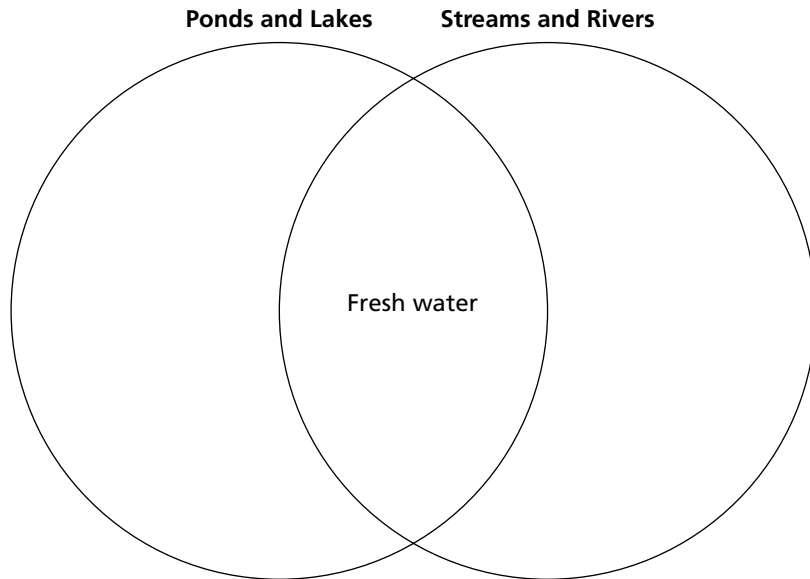
17. What are some organisms adapted to life on the ice?

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Freshwater Ecosystems

18. Is the following sentence true or false? Lakes are generally larger and deeper than ponds. _____

19. Complete the Venn diagram.



20. What are some organisms adapted to life in a stream?

Marine Ecosystems

21. Complete the compare/contrast table.

Types of Marine Ecosystems	
Type of Biome	Where It Is Located
Estuary	Where fresh river water and salty ocean water meet
	Between the highest and lowest tide
	Below the low-tide line and out over the continental shelf
	On the surface of the open ocean
	Below the surface of the open ocean

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Biomes and Aquatic Ecosystems *(continued)*

22. Is the following sentence true or false? An estuary is a very poor habitat for living things. _____

23. Why is the intertidal zone a difficult place to live?

24. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about the neritic zone.

- a. Its water is too deep for photosynthesis to occur.
- b. It is particularly rich in living things.
- c. Many large schools of fish feed there.
- d. Coral reefs may form there.

25. Is the following sentence true or false? Algae form the basis of almost all open-ocean food webs. _____

26. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about the deep zone.

- a. Throughout most of the deep zone, the ocean is completely dark.
- b. Most animals in the deep zone feed on algae.
- c. Some animals in the deep zone glow in the dark.
- d. Plants grow on the ocean floor in the deep zone.