

# The World's Terrestrial Biomes WebQuest

**What is a Biome?** Go to the following website and answer the questions below:

[http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/world\\_biomes.htm](http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/world_biomes.htm)



1. What is a Biome? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What determines what type of biome can exist in a region? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Each biome consists of many \_\_\_\_\_ whose communities have \_\_\_\_\_ to the small differences in \_\_\_\_\_
4. All living things are closely related to their \_\_\_\_\_. Any change in one part of an environment causes a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. List the 10 types of biomes represented on the map: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Tundra** Click on the link for “Tundra” or go to the following webpage:

<http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/tundra.htm>

6. How long ago was the tundra formed? \_\_\_\_\_
7. The bare and rocky ground can only support what kinds of plants and animals? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What are the 2 main seasons here? \_\_\_\_\_
9. In the winter, how long can the nights last? \_\_\_\_\_  
How cold can it get? \_\_\_\_\_ In the summer, how long can the days last? \_\_\_\_\_ How warm can it get? \_\_\_\_\_
10. The tundra is basically like a \_\_\_\_\_ when it comes to precipitation. How much precipitation does it get a year? \_\_\_\_\_



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**Taiga** Go back to the main page and click “Taiga” or go to the following webpage: <http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/taiga.htm>

11. Taiga is the Russian word for \_\_\_\_\_ and is \_\_\_\_\_
12. A lot of \_\_\_\_\_ grow in the taiga. The taiga is also known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
13. What are the 2 main seasons here? \_\_\_\_\_
14. The winters can be as cold as \_\_\_\_\_ and the summers can be as hot as \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Not many plants can survive the \_\_\_\_\_



**Grasslands** Go back to the main page and click “Grasslands” or go to the following webpage:  
<http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/grasslands.htm>

16. Grassland biomes are \_\_\_\_\_

17. What 3 factors determine what kinds of plants grow in a particular grassland?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

18. A grassland is a region where the average annual precipitation is \_\_\_\_\_

The precipitation is so erratic that \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ prevent  
\_\_\_\_\_ from growing.

19. There are two different types of grasslands: 1) tall-grass, which are \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, and 2) short-grass, which are \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



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**Deciduous Forest** Go back to the main page and click “Grasslands” or go to the following webpage: [http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/deciduous\\_forest.htm](http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/deciduous_forest.htm)

20. The average annual temperature in a deciduous forest is \_\_\_\_\_. The average rainfall is \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ inches a year.

21. What are the 5 zones of the deciduous forest?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_



22. What are the 4 seasons in a Deciduous forest? \_\_\_\_\_

23. A “deciduous forest” means a forest in which \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

24. What is the soil like? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Chaparral** Go back to the main page and click “Chaparral” or go to the following webpage: <http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/chaparral.htm>

25. The chaparral biome has many different types of terrain. Some examples are \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

26. Chaparral is characterized as being \_\_\_\_\_.

The winter is very \_\_\_\_\_ and is usually about \_\_\_\_\_ °C. Then there is the summer. It is so hot and dry at \_\_\_\_\_ °C that \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are very common.

26. The plants and animals are all mainly grassland and desert types adapted to \_\_\_\_\_



**Desert** Go back to the main page and click “Deserts” or go to the following webpage:

<http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/desert.htm>

27. What are the 2 types of deserts? \_\_\_\_\_

28. In hot deserts, the only animals they have that can survive have the ability to \_\_\_\_\_. They only come out \_\_\_\_\_.

29. In a cold desert, it never gets warm \_\_\_\_\_.

30. Deserts cover about \_\_\_\_\_ of the Earth's land surface.

31. The precipitation in these different types of deserts is different. Hot and Dry Deserts usually have \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ This averages out to under \_\_\_\_\_ cm a year. Cold Deserts usually have \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ They also have rain around spring. This averages out to \_\_\_\_\_ cm a year.



**Savannah** Go back to the main page and click “Savannah” or go to the following webpage:

<http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/savanna.htm>

32. A savanna is a \_\_\_\_\_ which can be found between \_\_\_\_\_.

33. Savannas have warm \_\_\_\_\_.

There are actually two very different seasons in a savanna; \_\_\_\_\_

In the dry season only an average of about \_\_\_\_\_ of rain falls. Between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ no rain will fall at all.

In Africa the \_\_\_\_\_ begin in May. An average of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ inches of rain falls during this time.

34. Many large grass-eating mammals (\_\_\_\_\_) can survive here because \_\_\_\_\_ There are also lots of carnivores (\_\_\_\_\_) who eat them in turn.

35. How are Plants of the savannas highly specialized to grow in this environment of long periods of drought? \_\_\_\_\_

36. How are animals adapted to living in this environment? \_\_\_\_\_

37. How is it possible for so many different carnivores, like lions, leopards, cheetahs, jackals and hyenas to live together? \_\_\_\_\_



**Rainforest** Go back to the main page and click “Rainforest” or go to the following webpage:  
<http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/rainforest.htm>

38. On average, how much rain falls here every year? \_\_\_\_\_

39. Rainforests now cover less than \_\_\_\_\_% of Earth's land surface.

Scientists estimate \_\_\_\_\_

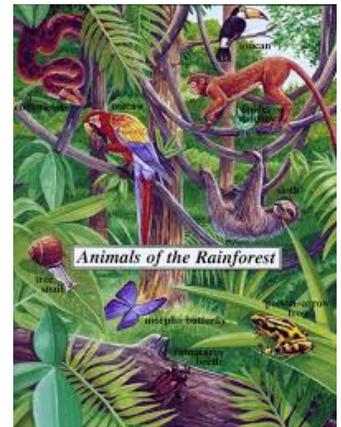
40. Tropical rainforests produce how much Earth's oxygen? \_\_\_\_\_

How many medicines that we use come from the rainforest? \_\_\_\_\_

41. What are the 4 layers of the rainforest? \_\_\_\_\_

42. How much light reaches the bottom layer of the forest? \_\_\_\_\_

43. Describe the soil in these forests: \_\_\_\_\_



**Alpine** Go back to the main page and click “Alpine” or go to the following webpage:  
<http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/alpine.htm>

44. What is the Latin word for “high mountain”? \_\_\_\_\_

45. At what altitude are alpine forests usually found? \_\_\_\_\_

46. If you started out in the North American desert biome and then traveled to climb upward, what biomes (in order) would you travel through before you reached the Alpine biome? \_\_\_\_\_



47. What are 2 ways that plants have adapted to life in this region? \_\_\_\_\_

48. What is the soil like in these regions? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_

49. What 2 problems do alpine animals have to deal with? \_\_\_\_\_

As a result, what types of animals do you find here? \_\_\_\_\_

50. What adaptations do animals in this area have to deal with this climate? \_\_\_\_\_