

Name _____

Date _____

Blue Planet – World Biomes Webquest

http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/world_biomes.htm

Ecosystems consist of all the abiotic and biotic factors in a particular area. Ecosystems can exist on different sized scales, from the microscopic scale to the global scale. Ecosystems can also exist within other ecosystems, such a freshwater pond ecosystem existing inside a temperate forest ecosystem. Biomes, on the other hand, are always large-scale communities shaped by common environmental conditions, namely geography and climate. The term biome usually refers to more general characteristics, such as the rainforest biome. However, if you were to visit a rainforest in the Amazon, you would find different species of plants and animals than those found in a rainforest in the Congo. Therefore, they would be considered as two different types of rainforest ecosystems. However, they are often referred to as being part of the same biome. In general, you can think of a biome as a group of similar, but not exactly the same, ecosystems.

For this activity, you will read about and describe the different abiotic factors found in the world biomes that determine which biotic factors can exist in those biomes. You will also read about and describe various biotic adaptations that help the plants and animals survive in those biomes.

Tundra

Abiotic Factors

Describe some of the abiotic factors that distinguish the tundra from other biomes.

Biotic Factors

Plants: List some of the different types of plants found in the tundra

Plant Adaptations: Describe some of the adaptations that the plants in the tundra use to help them survive.

Animals: List some of the different types of animals found in the tundra.

Animal Adaptations: Describe some of the adaptation that the animals in the tundra use to help them survive.

Taiga

Abiotic Factors

Describe some of the abiotic factors that distinguish the taiga from other biomes.

Biotic Factors

Plants: List some of the different types of plants found in the taiga.

Plant Adaptations: Describe some of the adaptations that the plants in the taiga use to help them survive.

Animals: List some of the different types of animals found in the taiga.

Animal Adaptations: Describe some of the adaptation that the animals in the taiga use to help them survive.

Grasslands

Abiotic Factors

Describe some of the abiotic factors that distinguish the taiga from other biomes.

Biotic Factors

Plants: List some of the different types of plants found in the taiga.

Plant Adaptations: Describe some of the adaptations that the plants in the taiga use to help them survive.

Animals: List some of the different types of animals found in the taiga.

Animal Adaptations: Describe some of the adaptation that the animals in the taiga use to help them survive.

Deciduous Forest

Abiotic Factors

Describe some of the abiotic factors that distinguish the deciduous forest from other biomes.

Biotic Factors

Plants: List some of the different types of plants found in the deciduous forest.

Plant Adaptations: Describe some of the adaptations that deciduous forest plants use to help them survive.

Animals: List some of the different types of animals found in the deciduous forest.

Animal Adaptations: Describe some of the adaptation that deciduous forest animals use to help them survive.

Desert

Abiotic Factors

Describe some of the abiotic factors that distinguish the desert forest from other biomes.

Biotic Factors

Plants: List some of the different types of plants found in the desert.

Plant Adaptations: Describe some of the adaptations that desert plants use to help them survive.

Animals: List some of the different types of animals found in the desert.

Animal Adaptations: Describe some of the adaptation that desert animals use to help them survive.

Rainforest

Abiotic Factors

Describe some of the abiotic factors that distinguish the rainforest from other biomes.

Biotic Factors

Plants: List some of the different types of plants found in the rainforest.

Plant Adaptations: Describe some of the adaptations that rainforest plants use to help them survive.

Animals: List some of the different types of animals found in the rainforest.

Animal Adaptations: Describe some of the adaptation that rainforest animals use to help them survive.

Analysis

1. Explain, using a specific example, how abiotic factors determine the biotic factors within a biome or ecosystem: _____

2. List some of the members that might be found in a desert community: _____

3. List a population of animals that might be found in a deciduous forest: _____
