

Biomes

A biome is a group of ecosystems that exist over a large area of a continent.

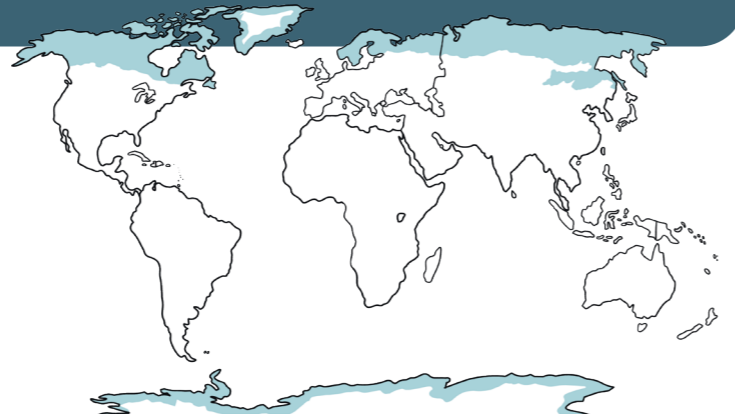
A biome is classified according to the climate and the plant and animal species that inhabit it.

Biomes can be either terrestrial (land-based) or aquatic (water-based).

There are many types of biomes across the globe, and most fall into one of the following categories:

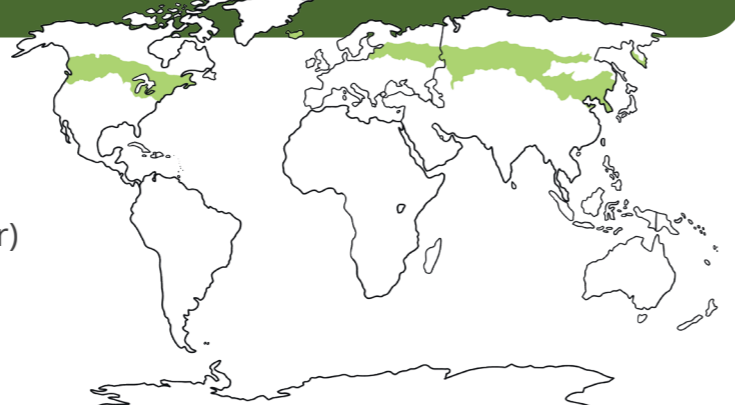
Tundra

- low biodiversity
- no trees
- average temperatures: between -34°C to 12°C
- average rainfall: less than 25cm per year



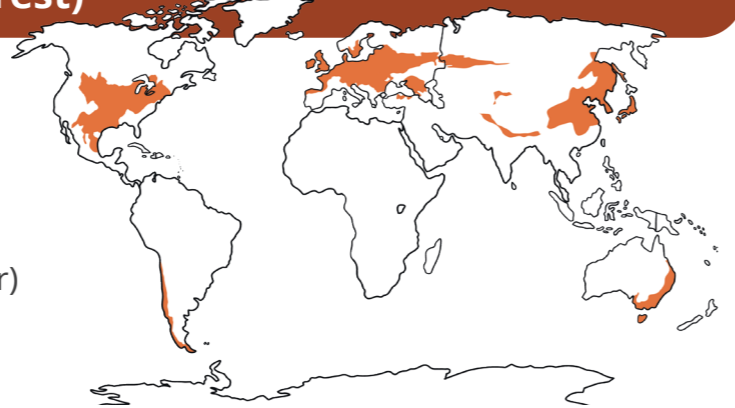
Boreal/Taiga (Coniferous Forest)

- start of the tree line
- average temperatures: between -10°C (winter) and 20°C (summer)
- average rainfall: 30cm – 90cm per year



Temperate Forest (Deciduous Forest)

- mid-latitudes (between polar regions and the tropics)
- experiences four distinct seasons
- average temperatures: between -30°C (winter) and 30°C (summer)
- average rainfall: 75cm - 150cm per year



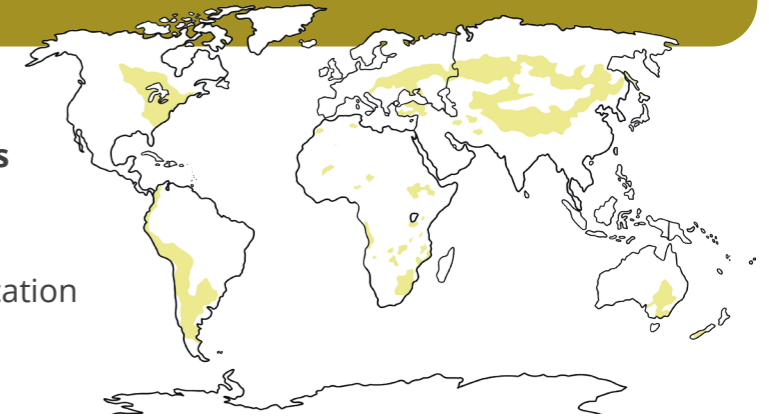
Rainforest (Tropical Forest)

- located close to the equator
- average temperatures: between 20°C and 25°C all year round
- average rainfall: up to 1000cm per year



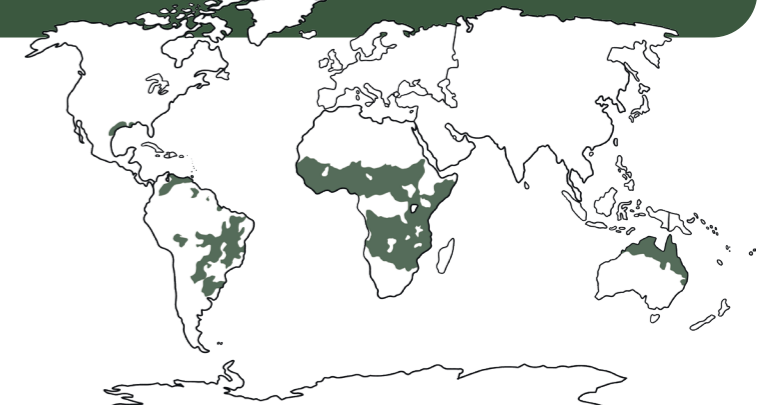
Grassland

- open, flat areas
- dominated by many varieties of grass
- trees are uncommon
- average temperatures: between -20°C to 30°C , depending on location
- average rainfall: 50cm to 90cm per year



Savanna

- a type of grassland (closer to the equator than other grasslands)
- scattered trees
- average temperatures: between 10°C to 20°C in the dry season and 20°C to 30°C in the wet season
- average rainfall: between 50cm and 90cm per year



Desert

- can be hot or cold
- average temperatures: between -4°C to 49°C , depending on the type of desert
- average rainfall: less than 50cm per year

