



YEAR 5 BIOMES



UNDERSTANDING BIOMES

A biome is a large area of the Earth that has a particular climate, type of plants, and animals. Different biomes are found all over the world, each having its own unique environment. Let us explore some key aspects of biomes.

WHAT ARE BIOMES?

Biomes are areas that share similar climates and living conditions. The weather, temperature, and amount of rainfall help determine what plants and animals can live in each biome. Each biome has its own special set of plants and animals that have adapted to the environment.

TYPES OF BIOMES

There are many different types of biomes around the world. Some common biomes include:

- **Tropical Rainforests:** These are warm, humid places that get a lot of rainfall. They are home to a variety of plants and animals, such as monkeys, snakes, and colourful birds.
- **Deserts:** Deserts are dry and have little rainfall. They are often hot during the day and cold at night. Animals like camels and reptiles are well adapted to living in deserts.
- **Grasslands:** These areas have mostly grass, with a few trees. They are home to animals like lions, zebras, and elephants.
- **Tundra:** This is a cold biome with little plant life. It is found in places like the Arctic. Animals such as polar bears and snow owls live here.

CLIMATE AND WEATHER

The climate of a biome plays a big part in the type of plants and animals that can live there. Some biomes are hot, while others are cold. Some get a lot of rain, and others are very dry. For example, tropical rainforests get a lot of rainfall and are warm throughout the year. In contrast, deserts are very dry, with little rain, and have extreme temperature changes.

PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Each biome has a variety of plants and animals that are specially suited to the climate. In a tropical rainforest, plants like tall trees and vines grow because the weather is warm and wet. In deserts, only plants that need little water, such as cacti, can survive. Animals in biomes also adapt to their surroundings.



For example, camels have large feet to walk on sand, and polar bears have thick fur to keep them warm in the cold tundra.

HUMAN IMPACT ON BIOMES

Humans can affect biomes in many ways. Deforestation, which is cutting down trees, can destroy forests and harm the animals that live there. Pollution can also damage the environment, making it harder for plants and animals to survive. It is important to look after our biomes so that they remain healthy for future generations.

CONCLUSION

Biomes are an important part of our planet, as they support a wide range of plants and animals. By understanding biomes and how they work, we can do our best to protect them and ensure that these ecosystems continue to thrive.

FIND OUT MORE...

[BBC Bitesize Explore Biomes](#)

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. What factors determine the type of plants and animals that live in a biome?
2. How do the animals in a desert biome adapt to the environment?
3. What is the main difference between a tropical rainforest and a tundra?
4. Why is it important to protect biomes from human activities like deforestation and pollution?
5. Name three animals that live in the grassland biome and explain how they are adapted to this environment.