

EARTH'S BIOMES

Biome	Desert	Tropical Rainforest	Grassland	Deciduous Forest	Coniferous Forest	Arctic Tundra
Location	near 30° N and 30° S latitudes; Africa, Asia, Australia, western North and South America	near equator	mid-latitudes; interior of continents	mid-latitudes of Northeastern and Southeastern U.S., Europe, parts of Japan, Australia	northern latitudes, south of tundra	northern latitudes
Climate	From 10° C to 38° C; very hot days, cool nights, winter nights can be below freezing; less than 25 cm rainfall yearly	constant 25° C, high humidity; 200 cm yearly rainfall; damp and dimly lit forest floor due to thick canopy layer	temperatures from 0° C to 25° C; long, hot summers; cold winters; irregular rainfall, 25 to 75 cm yearly	four distinct seasons; warm summers, cold winters; 75 to 250 cm precipitation yearly; rain and snow	winter as severe as tundra, summer temperatures warmer; 3 - 6 month growing season; 45 - 125 cm precipitation; parts are "swampy" in summer	winter temperatures below -40° C; summer temperatures as high as 10° C, summer nights are frosty; very cold with fierce winds; ground frozen most of the year (permafrost); dry, little precipitation; 3 months of spring and summer; summer days are sunny and long
Plants	scarcity of plant life; cacti, creosote bush, mesquite	wide variety	many species of grasses (few or no trees), able to grow year round	deciduous trees; trees shed leaves in winter	evergreen trees with cones; pines, firs, spruces, smaller plants	little plant life; mosses, lichens, sedges, grasses
Animals	scarcity of animal life; camels, snakes, mice, birds, lizards	parrots and other birds, snakes, jaguar, monkeys, tree frog, spider	grazing mammals; lion, elephant, zebra, gopher, hawk jackrabbit	deer, squirrels, black bears, woodpeckers; many birds migrate in winter	beaver, moose, black bears, snowshoe hares, many birds	little animal life; reindeer, wolves, frequent white coloration; clouds of mosquitoes in spring