

Section 3: Biomes

# Study Guide B

## KEY CONCEPT

Biomes are land-based, global communities of organisms.

## VOCABULARY

canopy	grassland	desert
deciduous	coniferous	taiga
tundra	chaparral	

**MAIN IDEA:** Earth has six major biomes.

Fill in the chart with details about the six major biomes found on Earth.

Biome	Description
1. tropical rain forest	tropical rainforests are characterized by warm temperatures and abundant rainfall throughout the year; lush thick forests; rich in biodiversity
2. grassland	tropical grasslands are warm throughout the year, with specific dry and rainy seasons, tall grasses, scattered trees and shrubs, hoofed animals dominate; temperate grassland is dry and warm during the summer, snow during the winter; short or tall grasses dependent on precipitation; many animals live underground
3. desert	very dry climate; plants store water or have deep underground root systems; animals are nocturnal or limit their activities during the day
4. temperate	a temperate deciduous forest is hot in the summer and cold in the winter, broadleaf forests; temperate rain forest has one long wet season and a relatively dry summer, evergreen conifers dominate
5. taiga	taiga has long, cold winters and short, warm, and humid summers; coniferous trees dominate
6. tundra	tundra has subzero temperatures during the long winter, little precipitation; ground is permanently frozen, only mosses and low lying plants survive; low animal diversity

7. What is the difference between tropical and temperate grasslands?

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8. What are the four different types of deserts?

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**Study Guide B** *continued*

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9. How does precipitation differ in a temperate deciduous forest and a temperate rain forest?

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10. Why do few plants grow in the tundra?

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11. Describe the main characteristics of chaparral.

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**MAIN IDEA:** Polar ice caps and mountains are not considered biomes.

12. Why aren't polar ice caps and mountains considered biomes?

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13. Where are the polar ice caps located?

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14. What is a mountain life zone?

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### Vocabulary Check

15. I lose my leaves in the autumn. I am a \_\_\_\_\_.

16. I retain my needles all year long. I am a \_\_\_\_\_.

17. I am the uppermost branches of a tree. I am called the

\_\_\_\_\_.