

Biomes of the World



An **ecosystem** is any group of living and nonliving things that interact with one another. Some are small like a pond, and others are large **biomes** like the ones listed below. Average temperatures and rainfall

are the two most important factors that make up a region's **climate** and determine what biomes will be found there. In this activity, you will identify and bring to life 7 major biomes found throughout the world.

You need:

-  Pencil
-  *Optional:* Library or Internet access



Do it!

- Below and on the next page, write the name of each biome above its description.

Choices: forest – grassland – desert – freshwater – marine – tropical rainforest – tundra

Optional: Research the biomes at the library or online to learn more about them.

- Draw a symbol for each biome below its descriptions. For example, a Sun and/or cactus for desert, or a fish for marine. You can use the symbols in the next activity.

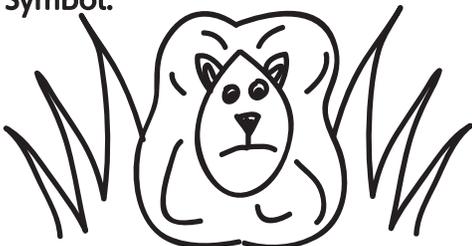
Name: Grassland

Climate: Warm and dry throughout year (savanna) or warm and dry summers with cold winters (prairie or steppes)

Plants: Buffalo grass, ryegrass, clover, sunflower; few trees and shrubs

Animals: Prairie dog, zebra, African elephant, Western meadowlark, and lion

Symbol:



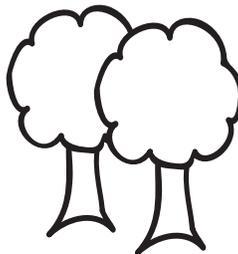
Name: Forest

Climate: Wide range of temperatures and rainfall

Plants: Many trees like spruce, maple, oak, hemlock, and fir; ferns and wild blueberries

Animals: Deer, rabbit, squirrel, raccoon, grizzly bear, and many birds such as owls and finches

Symbol:



Name: Desert

Climate: Very dry; intense heat or cold

Plants: Saguaro cactus, Joshua tree, sagebrush, aloe

Animals: Camel, kangaroo rat, roadrunner, coyote, rattlesnake

Symbol:



Name: Tropical rainforest

Climate: Very wet and warm

Plants: Bamboo, banana tree, rubber tree, strangler fig, and orchids

Animals: Toucan, jaguar, piranha; many species of bats, snakes, and insects

Symbol:



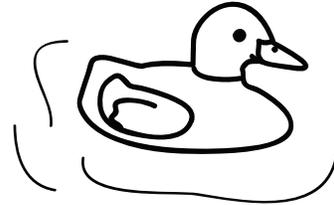
Name: Wetlands

Climate: Filled with water in places like lakes, rivers, and streams; wide range of temperatures

Plants: Cattails, lily pads, algae

Animals: Mallard duck, catfish, bullfrog, bass, mosquito, painted turtle

Symbol:



Name: Tundra

Climate: Dry and very cold

Plants: Arctic moss, Arctic willow, bearberry

Animals: Wolf, caribou, lemming, Arctic fox, flies, snowy owl, and salmon

Symbol:



Name: Marine

Climate: Filled with water; wide range of temperatures

Plants: Kelp, algae, seagrasses

Animals: Starfish, sponges, fire coral, seahorse, and MANY species of fish

Symbol:

