

Name _____

Making Inferences

Infer from the Text

Biomes

A biome is a large region of the world that has a certain climate and specific types of plants and animals. Biomes are classified by factors such as temperature, precipitation, and the organisms that live there. Some common types of biomes include deserts, forests, grasslands, tundras, and aquatic biomes.

Deserts are biomes that receive very little rainfall. They can be hot, like the Sahara Desert in Africa, or cold, like the Gobi Desert in Asia. Plants in deserts, such as cacti, have adapted to survive with minimal water. Animals like camels and lizards also have special adaptations to thrive in these harsh conditions.

Forests are biomes with a high density of trees. There are different types of forests, including tropical rainforests, temperate forests, and boreal forests. Tropical rainforests, found near the equator, have high temperatures and receive a lot of rainfall, making them home to a diverse range of species. Temperate forests, found in regions with four distinct seasons, have a mix of deciduous and evergreen trees. Boreal forests, also known as taigas, are found in colder regions and are dominated by coniferous trees.

Grasslands are biomes where grasses are the dominant plant life. There are two main types of grasslands: savannas and temperate grasslands. Savannas, found in Africa and South America, have a mix of trees and grasses and experience both wet and dry seasons. Temperate grasslands, like the prairies in North America, have fewer trees and experience more extreme temperature variations.

Tundras are cold, treeless biomes found in the Arctic and on high mountaintops. They have a short growing season and permafrost, a layer of permanently frozen soil. Despite the harsh conditions, tundras are home to specially adapted plants like mosses and lichens, and animals such as reindeer and arctic foxes.

Aquatic biomes include both freshwater and marine environments. Freshwater biomes, such as lakes, rivers, and streams, have low salt content and support a variety of plant and animal life. Marine biomes, including oceans, coral reefs, and estuaries, have higher salt content and are home to diverse species ranging from tiny plankton to large whales.

Each biome has unique characteristics and supports specific types of life. Understanding biomes helps scientists study the relationships between climate, geography, and living organisms.

1. What can be inferred about the adaptations of plants and animals in desert biomes?

- A) They do not need to adapt to survive.
- B) They have special adaptations to conserve water.
- C) They rely on a lot of rainfall to thrive.

3. Which biome is characterized by permafrost and a short growing season?

- A) Desert
- B) Grassland
- C) Tundra
- D) Tropical rainforest

2. Why might the biodiversity be higher in tropical rainforests compared to boreal forests?

- A) Tropical rainforests have more extreme temperatures.
- B) Tropical rainforests receive more rainfall and have a stable, warm climate.
- C) Boreal forests have more rainfall.

4. Based on the information provided, what is a common characteristic of aquatic biomes?

- A) They are all freshwater environments.
- B) They support only plant life.
- C) They include environments with varying salt content.
- D) They are not suitable for animal life.