

# Our Earth's Biomes

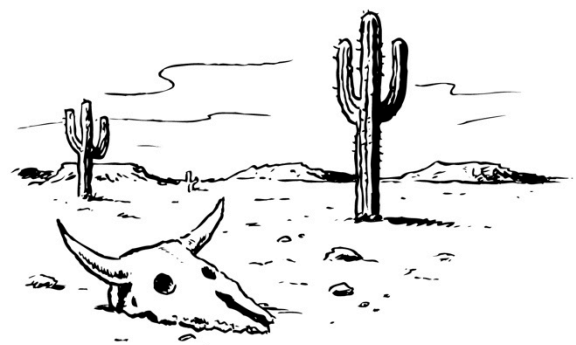


Name \_\_\_\_\_



# What is a Biome?

- ◆ **Biome:** a large naturally occurring community of flora and fauna occupying a major habitat.
- ◆ Biomes help to divide the Earth's surface.
- ◆ The division of biomes is based on climate, soil type, animals (fauna), and plants (flora).
- ◆ The Earth's five biomes are:
  - Aquatic Biome (subdivided into: freshwater and saltwater)
  - Forest Biome (subdivided into: taiga forest, temperate forest, and rainforest)
  - Desert Biome
  - Tundra Biome
  - Grassland Biome (subdivided into: temperate grassland and savannas)



# Aquatic Biome

- ◆ Refers to the plants and animals that live in the water.
- ◆ The aquatic biome divides into freshwater and saltwater.
- ◆ The divisions of the aquatic biome are determined by the amount of salt / salt content.
- ◆ Freshwater biomes include: ponds, lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands.
- ◆ Saltwater biomes include: the ocean and estuaries.



# Desert Biome

- ◆ The main characteristic of the desert biome is the lack of / little vegetation.
- ◆ Deserts have a very hot or very cold climate.
- ◆ Deserts in Africa are very hot and humid. They receive very little rainfall and plants do not grow well.
- ◆ Deserts in Antarctica are very cold all year long. Like hot and humid deserts, cold deserts have a lack of / little vegetation.





# Tundra Biome

- ◆ The tundra is the coldest of all the biomes.
- ◆ The tundra biome receives little rain—even less than the desert.
- ◆ Temperatures are very cold / frigid in the tundra biome.
- ◆ Plants and animals that live in the tundra have adapted to the harsh climate.



# Grasslands Biome

- ◆ The grassland biome divides into temperate grasslands and savannas.
- ◆ The grassland biome consists of various types of grasses and small hills. It is not uncommon to find small trees in the grasslands.
- ◆ The grassland receives a small amount of rainfall, enough for the grass but not enough for tall trees.
- ◆ Wildfires are common in the grasslands, but they help to rid out the old trees.



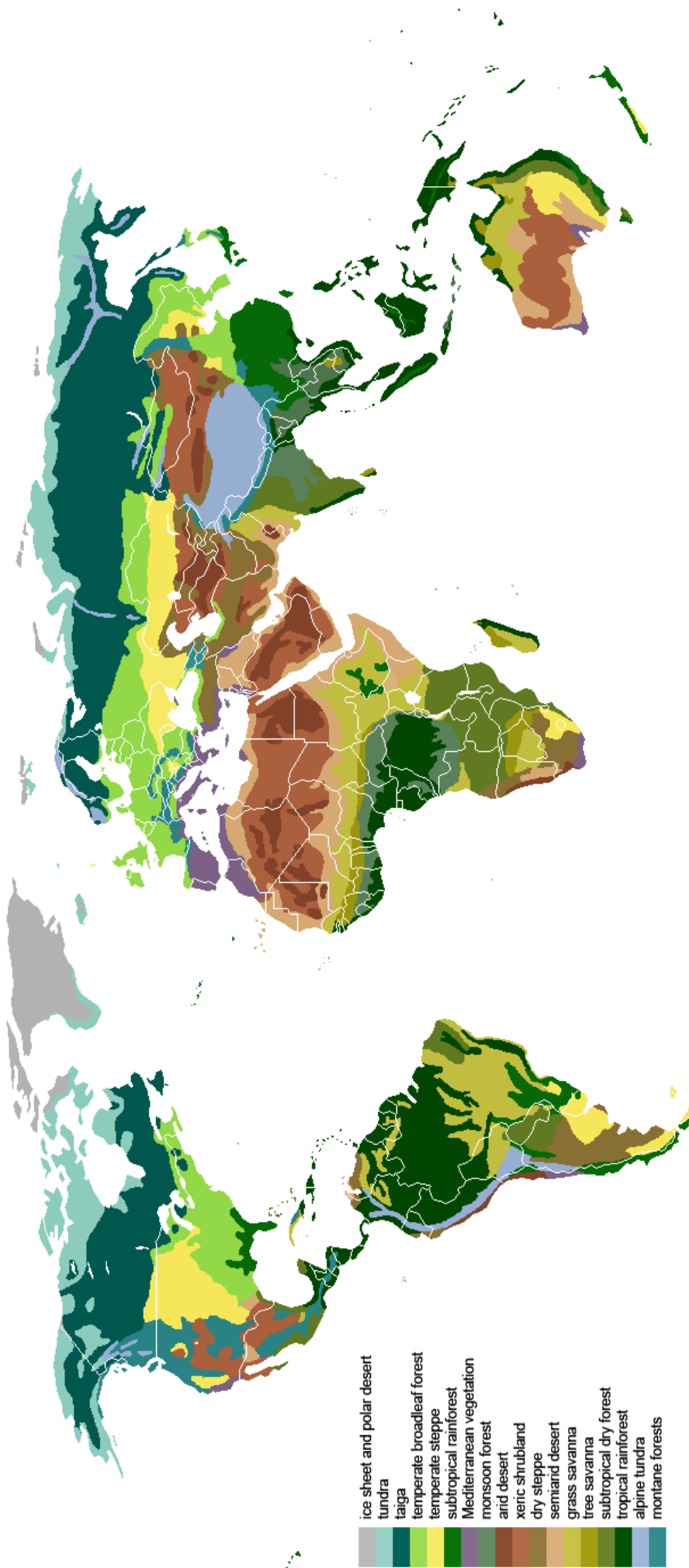


# Forest Biome

- ◆ The forest biome divides into temperate forests, rainforests, and taiga forests.
- ◆ There are a large variety of animals, plants, and insects that inhabit that forest biomes.
- ◆ The forest biome makes up 30% of the Earth's surface.
- ◆ Tropical forests are called rainforests.
- ◆ Colder forests are cold taiga forests.



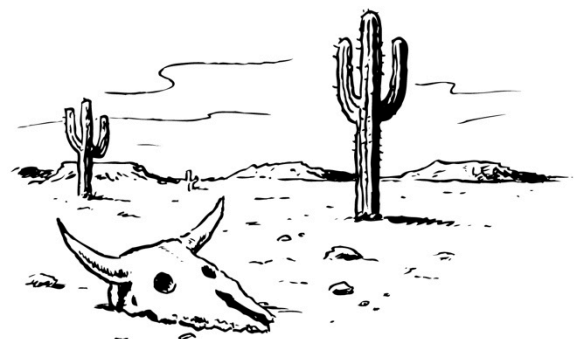
# Biomes of the World





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