

Finn's Biome Expedition: Mapping the World's Habitats

Learning objective: To identify, describe, and compare the characteristics of major global biomes, understanding how climate affects the flora and fauna within them.

Finn the dolphin is mapping the Earth's diverse biomes. Read the descriptions of the world's habitats and match them to the correct biome from the word bank. Use your geographical knowledge to explain why the plants and animals in these areas have adapted in such unique ways.

Word bank: Tropical Rainforest · Desert · Tundra · Temperate Deciduous Forest · Grassland · Taiga

1. 1. I am a vast, freezing landscape with very little vegetation. My ground stays permanently frozen. Which biome am I, and why is it difficult for tall trees to grow here? (3 marks)

2. 2. I am home to the greatest variety of species. I am hot, humid, and receive a high amount of rainfall all year round. Name me and explain why I have such a dense canopy layer. (3 marks)

3. 3. Compare and contrast the Desert biome with the Tropical Rainforest. Use specific details about precipitation and temperature to justify your answer. (4 marks)

4. 4. What might happen to the animals in a Temperate Deciduous Forest if the climate shifted and it no longer had four distinct seasons? Justify your prediction. (3 marks)

5. 5. Explain why a cactus is perfectly suited to the Desert biome but would likely struggle to survive in the Taiga. (3 marks)

6. 6. If you were planning an expedition, which biome would you choose to study and why? Use geographical vocabulary to describe the climate and terrain of your chosen location. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a 'Biome Split-Screen'. On the left, sketch a Tropical Rainforest showing the emergent, canopy, and forest floor layers. On the right, sketch a Desert landscape, ensuring you include at least two specific plant or animal adaptations (e.g., succulent leaves or nocturnal behaviour).



Extension challenge: Research the impact of human activity on one of these biomes. Write a persuasive paragraph explaining how we can better protect these fragile environments for future generations.