

Grade 3 Geography Assessment: Exploring Global Biomes

Learning objective: To identify, describe, and compare the characteristics of major global biomes and understand how climate influences the natural world.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of geography to provide detailed, accurate answers. Ensure you use the provided word bank to support your explanations.

Finn the dolphin has been mapping the world's surface. He has discovered that the Earth is divided into large regions called biomes. Each biome has a distinct climate, soil type, and unique plants and animals that have evolved to survive in their specific environment. From the freezing, treeless plains of the north to the lush, humid canopies near the Equator, every biome plays a vital role in our planet's ecosystem.

Word bank: Equator · Precipitation · Adaptation · Climate · Vegetation · Tropical Rainforest · Tundra · Desert · Temperate

1. Define the term 'biome' in your own words. Why is it important for scientists to classify the Earth into these regions? (2 marks)

2. Name two major differences between a Tropical Rainforest and a Desert. Consider both climate and vegetation. (2 marks)

3. Explain why most Tropical Rainforests are located near the Equator. (2 marks)

4. Choose one animal that lives in a Tundra or a Desert. Describe one specific physical adaptation that helps it survive in that harsh climate. (2 marks)

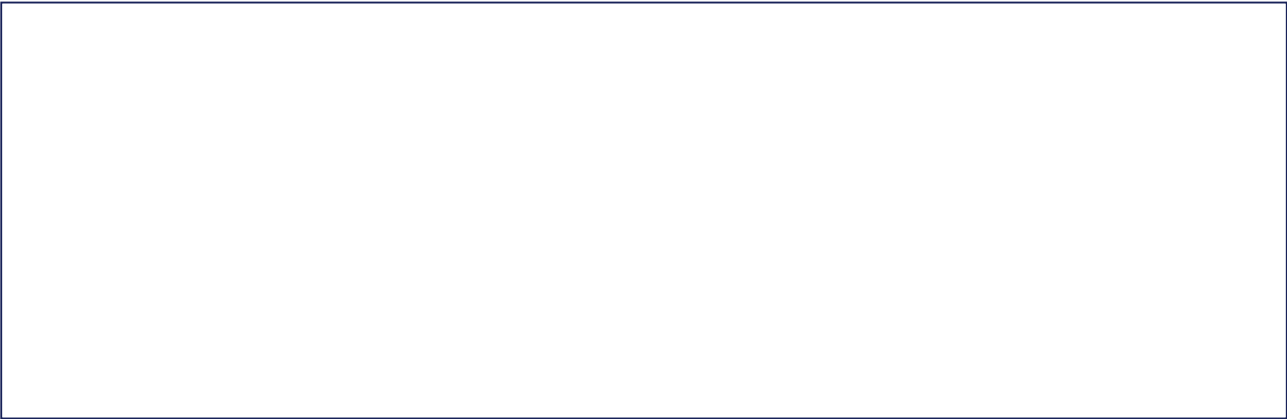
5. Compare and contrast the temperate deciduous forest with the tundra biome. How does the change in seasons affect the vegetation in these two areas? (4 marks)

6. Justify your answer: If the global temperature were to rise significantly, which biome do you think would be most at risk of disappearing? Explain your reasoning using geographical evidence. (4 marks)

7. Extended Writing Task: Imagine you are a researcher accompanying Finn on an expedition. You have just arrived in a biome you have never visited before. Describe the climate, the types of plants you see, and the challenges a human might face while trying to survive there for one week. Use rich, descriptive vocabulary. (5 marks)

8. What might happen to the food chain in a biome if the primary producers (plants) were removed due to human activity? (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a diagram of a Tropical Rainforest cross-section, clearly labelling the four layers: Forest Floor, Understory, Canopy, and Emergent Layer.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Research task: Investigate how the 'biome' you live in (Temperate) is different from the biome where the Sahara Desert is located. Create a comparison table identifying average monthly rainfall and temperature ranges.