Exploring Global Biomes with Finn the Dolphin

Learning objective: To identify, describe, and compare the characteristics of major global biomes, understanding how climate influences vegetation and animal life.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of the Earth's diverse biomes. Read the term or question on the left, then check your answer on the right. Reflect on how Finn the Dolphin's global travels help him map these distinct regions.

What is a biome?

A large naturally occurring community of flora and fauna occupying a major habitat, such as a forest or desert, defined by its unique climate.

Which biome is characterised by high temperatures and significant rainfall throughout the year, supporting a dense canopy?

Tropical Rainforest.

Describe the climate of a hot desert.

Extremely low precipitation (less than 25cm per year) and high temperature fluctuations between day and night.

What are the main features of a Tundra biome?

Extremely cold temperatures, low biotic diversity, simple vegetation structure, and a layer of permafrost.

Where are Temperate Deciduous Forests typically found?

In regions with four distinct seasons, where trees lose their leaves annually to survive the cold winter.

How does latitude affect a biome?

Generally, areas closer to the Equator are warmer, while areas closer to the poles are colder, significantly influencing the biome type.

Define 'adaptation' in the context of biomes.

A physical or behavioural change that helps an organism survive and thrive in its specific environment.

Why are Grasslands sometimes called 'transitional biomes'?

They often exist between forests and deserts, receiving enough rain to support grasses but not enough to support large forests.

Compare and contrast the Tundra and the Desert.

Both have low precipitation levels, but the Tundra is defined by extreme cold, whereas the Desert is defined by extreme heat or aridity.

Explain why the Tropical Rainforest is considered a 'global climate regulator'.

Through photosynthesis, these biomes absorb vast amounts of carbon dioxide and release oxygen, helping to stabilise the Earth's atmosphere.