Year 6 Geography Assessment: Understanding Global Biomes

Learning objective: To identify, describe, and explain the characteristics and locations of the world's major biomes.

Read each question carefully. Use your geographical knowledge to provide detailed answers. Ensure you use technical vocabulary where appropriate.

Finn the dolphin has been mapping the world from the perspective of the oceans, but he often looks up to see the diverse landscapes on land. From the frozen, treeless plains of the north to the dense, humid jungles near the Equator, our planet is home to a variety of unique biomes. Each biome has its own specific climate, plants, and animals that have evolved to survive in their surroundings.

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

1. Define the term 'biome' and explain why biomes near the Equator usually have higher temperatures than those near the poles. (3 marks)

2. Name two specific plant or animal adaptations found in the Tropical Rainforest and explain how they help the organism survive. (4 marks)

3. Compare the climate of a Tundra biome with that of a Hot Desert. You must mention both temperature and annual precipitation. (4 marks)

4. Why is the vegetation in the Tropical Rainforest structured in layers (the emergent layer, canopy, understory, and forest floor)? (3 marks)

5. Identify one human activity that threatens the balance of a biome and explain the potential long-term impact on that environment. (3 marks)

6. Extended Writing: Nova the owl is planning a migration across different biomes. Write a report describing the journey from a Temperate Deciduous Forest to a Tundra. Explain how the climate, vegetation, and wildlife change as she travels north, and why these changes occur. (8 marks)

Draw: Draw a cross-section of a Tropical Rainforest, labelling the four main layers of vegetation.

Extension challenge: Total: /25