

Ecosystems and Biomes

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| abiotic factors | nonliving things in an environment (rocks, soil, water, light) |
| biotic factors | living things in an environment (plants, animals, fungi, microorganisms) |
| community | all the different populations found in an ecosystem |
| ecosystems | all the biotic and abiotic factors in an environment (small or large) |
| habitat | home for an organism |
| populations | all the members of a single species |
| biome | a major ecosystem found on Earth (has its own climate, soil, plants, animals) |
| deciduous forest | cold winters & warm summers; rainfall year round; fertile soil; (broad leaved trees that lose leaves in fall) (variety of animals) |
| desert | extreme temperatures - hot days & cool nights; very little rainfall; sandy or rocky soil (succulent plants) (lizards & scorpions) |
| grassland | some, but not much rainfall; (main plant is grass) (grazing animals) |
| prairie | grassland with mild climates; hot dry summers make it prone to burning; rich fertile soil |
| savannah | grassland with warm climate year round, shrubs & few trees; poor soil |
| taiga | largest biome in world; long cold winters & mild summers; poor soil; many lakes; (cool coniferous [evergreen] trees) (home to large furry animals) |
| tropical rain forest | hot and humid {warm and wet year round}; much rainfall; poor soil (tall large leaved trees with little light on ground) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •canopy: tree top layer; much light; many animals like birds •understory: hot and damp; animals travel here for food •forest floor: dark, poor, damp soil; lots of bugs and snakes |
| tundra | cold and dry; permafrost (ground frozen year round); long icy winters, short cool summers; no trees; (plants include wildflowers, mosses, grasses) (hibernating animals & mammals with fat layers) |
| wetlands | roots grow below water; salt marshes & swamps (rich in organisms) |
| estuary | ecosystem where rivers & oceans meet (rich in organisms) |
| freshwater ecosystems | flowing water: ex. streams & rivers still water: ex. lakes & ponds |
| ocean ecosystems | saltwater content fairly constant throughout; main producer - algae |