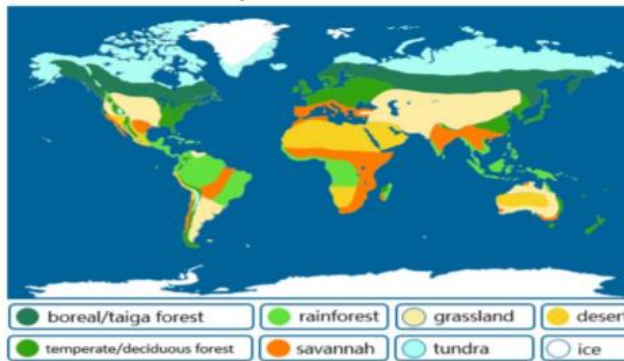


Earth is divided into major ecosystems called biomes.

Tropical grassland or savannah Within the tropics Hot with a wet and dry season Mainly grass and a few specially adapted-trees	Tropical rainforest Hot and wet all year Rich in plants and animals Poor soils
Desert Can be hot or cold Limited plants	Tundra Below freezing for most of the year Ground permanently frozen
Deciduous forest Cool summers and mild winters. Rain throughout the year. Rich deciduous woodland	Coniferous forest (Taiga) L Long, cold winters Short, mild summer Limited rainfall

Temperate grassland Warm summer and very cold winter. Quite low rainfall. Mainly grassland vegetation



Subject Specific Vocabulary

biome	large ecosystem which relies on climate
equator	imaginary line halfway around the earth which is between the North and South Poles.
latitude	lines which go around the earth east to west
longitude	lines which go around the earth north to south
hemisphere	half of the earth (northern or southern)
climate	average weather conditions over longer periods
precipitation	any form of moisture which falls to the earth
ecosystem	group of living organisms interacting with their physical environment
biodiversity	variety of living things e.g. species, habitats
flora	another word to refer to plants
fauna	another word to refer to animals
savannah	type of biome. Sometimes called tropical grass
tundra	type of biome. The coldest biome.
coniferous forest	forests made mostly of conifer trees such as cedar, fir and pine trees.
deciduous forest	forests made mostly of broad-leaved trees that shed their leaves during a season (usually winter)

Physical Geography

A large ecosystem is called a biome. A biome contains particular plant and animal groups which are adapted to that particular environment. Weather describes the day to day conditions of the atmosphere. Weather can change quickly- one day it can be dry and sunny and the next day it may rain. Climate describes average weather conditions over a long period of time.

Human Geography

Indigenous groups of people such as **the Yanomamo and Kayapo tribes** have been living in the Amazon rainforest for thousands of years, slowly gathering a detailed knowledge of the rainforest and how to survive in it.