

# Spring | Geography | Year 8 Biomes

## Tier 2 Vocabulary

**Climate** = the general weather conditions in an area over a period of time.

**Ecosystem** = a unit that includes all the biotic and abiotic within one area.

**Food chain** = shows you what eats what within an ecosystem.

**Food web** = how food chains can overlap within an ecosystem.

**Tropical rainforest** = a biome 23.5° north - 23.5° south of the equator. Hot and wet all year. Rich in plants and animals.

**Desert** = a biome 15-30° north and south of the equator. Very hot and dry. Limited plants.

**Savanna** = a biome mainly between 5° and 15° north and south of the equator. Hot with a wet and dry season. Mainly grass and a few specially adapted trees.

**Coral reef** = a biome made up of millions of coral polyps. These are tiny animals, but they contain plants called algae.

**Polar** = a biome very cold all year round. Permanent or semi-permanent layer of ice. Mainly found in the Arctic and Antarctic.

**Adaptation** = organism change to their environment, refers to a change made in the genes.

**Goods** = resources that can be harvested from the biome directly.

**Services** = benefits that the biome provides and that humans (and plants and animals) rely on.

**Sustainability** = meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

## Tier 3 Vocabulary

**Biome** = a large naturally occurring community of flora (vegetation) and fauna (animals) occupying a major habitat, e.g. forest or tundra.

**Biotic** = living organisms.

**Abiotic** = non-living element.

**Producer** = Plants are producers as they produce their own

food using energy from the sun.

**Primary consumer** = The first animals to eat plants are called primary consumers.

**Secondary consumer** = Animals eating primary consumers are the secondary consumers.

**Tertiary consumer** = Animals eating secondary consumers are the tertiary consumers however they may also eat primary consumers.

**Decomposers** = An organism that breaks down dead plants and animals.

**Equator** = an imaginary circle around Earth. It divides Earth into two equal parts: the Northern Hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere.

**The Tropic of Cancer** = an imaginary latitude line above the equator that runs across the globe at about 23 degrees north.

**Tropic of Capricorn** = an imaginary latitude line below the equator whose latitude line circles the globe at about 23 degrees south.

**Global Wind Circulation** = the world-wide system of winds by which the necessary transport of heat from tropical to polar biomes.

**Temperate deciduous** = a biome 40-60° north and south of the equator. Cool summers and mild winters. Rain throughout the year. Most vegetation loses foliage (leaves) in winter.

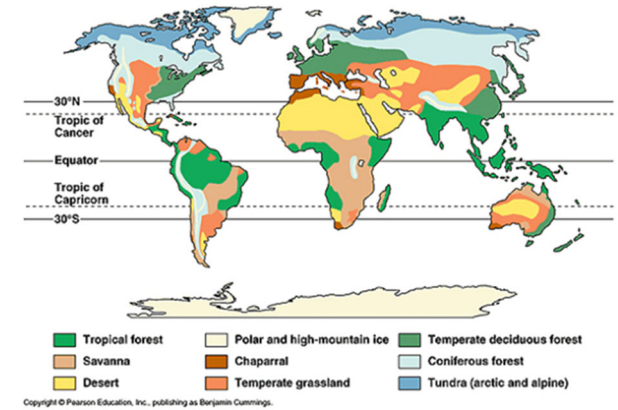
**Climate graphs** = graphs how average rainfall and temperatures typically experienced in a particular location. The temperature is shown on a line graph, and rainfall on a bar graph.

**Biodiversity** = variety (and quantity) of species.

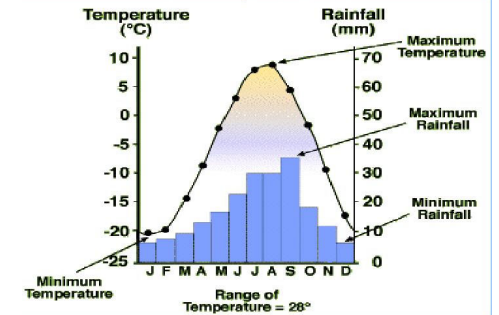
**Deforestation** = the clearing of a wide area of trees.

**Positive feedback loop** = when an impact of global warming accelerates temperature rise.

**Coral bleaching** = This is when corals expel the microscopic algae that protect and nourish them and turn a pale or brilliant white.



## Climate Graphs



Spatial Interactions Sustainability  
Diversity Processes and formation