



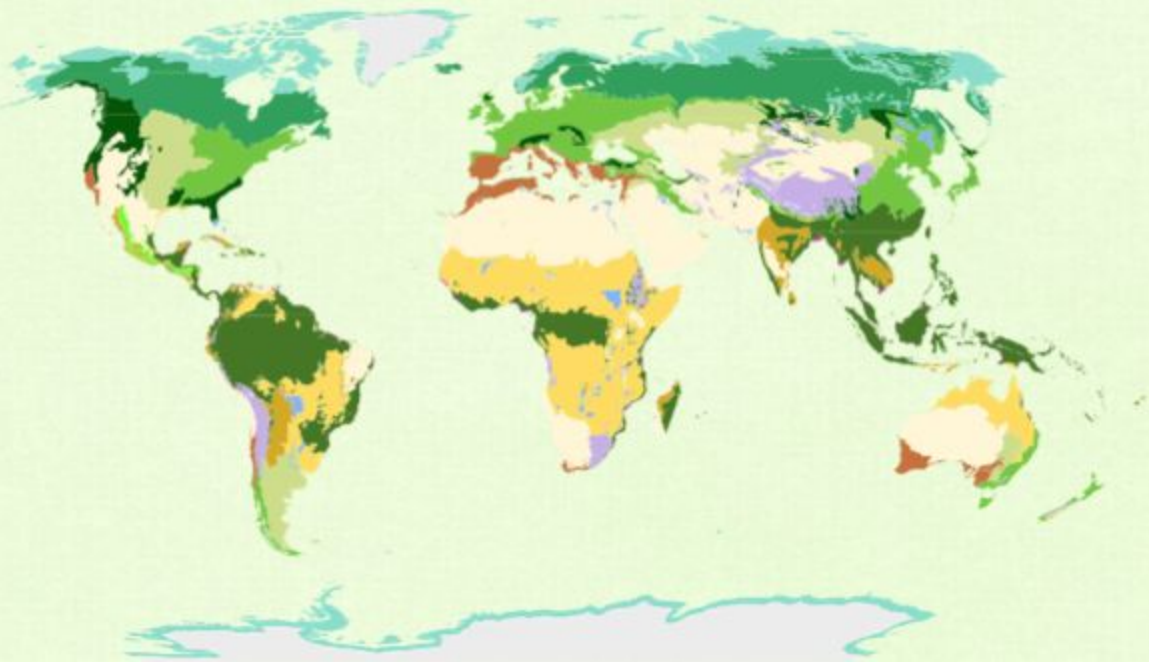
Biomes



What is a Biome?

Our world is divided into large areas of similar ecosystems that we call biomes. Biomes have similar weather, rainfall, animals, and plants. There are biomes in dry land and in water. Every part of earth's surface is included in one or more biomes.

- Desert
- Temperate Forest
- Savannah
- Rainforest
- Tundra
- Taiga
- Grassland
- Mediterranean



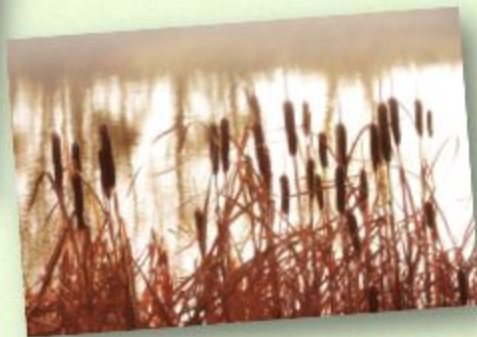
Freshwater : Location

Freshwater biomes include lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, and wetlands. The biggest lake on earth is lake Baikal located in central Asia. Lake Tahoe is another big lake on the border of California and Nevada. Rivers and streams are moving bodies of water that begins in mountains and come from melting ice and ground water and then flows into the ocean. The Amazon River for example starts in the Andes Mountains and ends in the Atlantic Ocean.



Freshwater : Plants

Plants and Algae are very important to this biome because they provide oxygen through photosynthesis and food for the animals. Plants that live in this biome have different adaptations. Water lilies, algae, and duckweed float on top of the water while cattails and reeds grown along the shoreline. Other plants include Mangroves and Pickleweed.

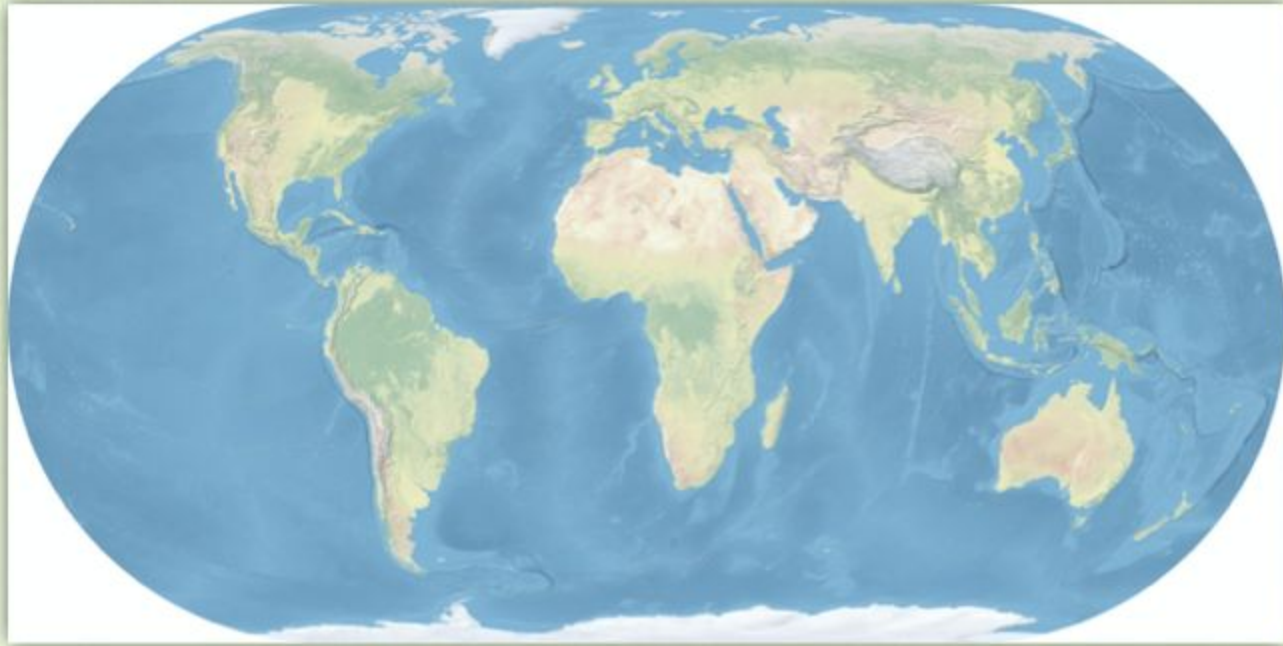


Freshwater : Animals

Many animals live in the freshwater biome including trout, shrimp, plankton, crayfish, snails, worms, frogs, turtles, insects, and lots of fish.



Marine : Location



The marine biome is the biggest biome in the world covering 70% of the earth! It is made up of the oceans: the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic, and Southern as well as other smaller gulfs and bays. Unlike freshwater, marine regions are very salty.

Marine : Weather

The marine biome provides rain through evaporation and wind to circulate air. It also affects our coastal temperatures. The ocean influences our weather greatly. The average temperature of all oceans is about 39 degrees F. The sun only warms the surface of the water but deep down oceans are cold.



Marine : Plants

Over one million types of plants live in the oceans. The Marine Algae is very important because without them we would not be able to breathe! The algae and other marine plants provide our worlds oxygen supply through photosynthesis. Very important marine algae include kelp and phytoplankton. Kelp provides food and shelter for many sea creatures and phytoplankton serves as food for many ocean creatures and provides earth with almost half of its oxygen. Other plants in this biome include seaweeds, seagrasses, and mangroves.



Marine : Animals

Many animals in this biome have special adaptations to handle salty and often cold environment. The biggest animal on earth is the blue whale and it lives in the ocean. Here is a list of a few of the animals that live in the marine biome:
Sharks, swordfish, stingray, eels, dolphins, octopus, squids, oysters, clams.

