

## Biomes & Ecosystems

### Group Research Activity and Presentation

Introduction: A *Terrestrial biome* is a large group of ecosystems that are classified primarily by the plant communities found within them. These plant communities are largely a function of climatic conditions, such as precipitation and temperature. Terrestrial Biomes are greatly influenced by latitude, elevation above sea level, and other physiographic features, such as mountain ranges and oceans.

*Aquatic ecosystems* are classified by water depth, flow, and distance from shore, salinity, and latitude. Particular plant and animal species are adapted to differing water salinities and water temperatures.

TERRESTRIAL BIOMES	AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS
Desert	Wetlands
Tropical Savanna	Estuaries
Tropical Seasonal Forest (Tropical Dry Forest)	Intertidal Zone
Tropical Rain Forest	Open Oceans
Temperate Grasslands	Coral Reefs
Temperate Forest	
Boreal Forest (Taiga)	
Tundra	
Temperate Woodland and Shrubland	

Overview: Your task is to use Google Docs to create a slide show presentation about a specific biome. You will be working in groups of 2 or 3 students and will complete the project during class in the computer lab and then present your project the following class. The objective is to teach your classmates about your biome.

#### Requirements:

Your slide show will mostly be composed of photographs, with minimal writing. You are responsible for presenting the information on each slide to the class orally and may use note cards to keep you on track while you present. You and your group members need to decide who is responsible for presenting each slide. Your slide show should be about 10 slides in length and must include the following:

\*Every slide must have photographs depicting your Biome or aquatic ecosystem

1. A cover slide with your Biome or aquatic ecosystem name and written definition.
2. Include the general information from your textbook. (No more detail than your textbook)
3. A map that shows where your biome is found on Earth. Include the latitude.
4. A satellite view of your biome from goggle maps.
5. Climate: temperature range, precipitation. Include a climatogram. (These should not just numeric values, but comparison to other biomes. Do they get a lot of rain, seasonal rain, cold temperatures, etc.? What causes your biome to have this climate? For example proximity to mountains, latitude, and wind or ocean currents.)
6. Photographs of the landscape (Abiotic factors)
7. Photographs of representative animals that live there (Biotic Factors, A food web)
8. Photographs of types of plants that live there. (Biotic Factors)
  - \*Make sure you write down the names of the plants and animals you depict in your slide show and point these out to the class while you present them!
9. Are there any environmental threats to your biome?
10. Any other interesting facts about your biome that sets it apart from the others.
11. Embed a short 1-2 minute video clip into your slide show that brings your biome to life! (Encouraged, but not required).

#### **Grading Rubric for Biome Project Evaluation (30 points)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Content and Appearance– You have all the necessary information. (10 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ You used your time in the computer lab wisely. (5 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Preparedness & Comprehension – – **You have rehearsed** your presentation. (5 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Presentation: Enthusiasm, Speaks Clearly, Good Posture and Eye Contact (5 pts)
- \_\_\_\_\_ You shared your presentation with me on the Google Drive, before the day of the presentation. (5 pts)