

Biomes

Biomes are large masses of land which are characterized by the local climatic and vegetation properties. They are generally grouped into two types: terrestrial and aquatic. Biomes situated on land are called terrestrial biomes, whereas biomes that have their identity based on marine are known as aquatic biomes. Biome is also known as the major life zone. It is a major community of plants and animals with similar life forms and environmental conditions.

Biomes and Ecosystem

A biome can be classified as an extensive area that has the same kind of living organisms that include flora, fauna and other living beings. All the living organisms that are present in a biome play a significant role in determining the characteristics of that biome.

An ecosystem is an environment that constitutes the interaction of living organisms with non-living beings. This is the reason that the living organisms across an ecosystem are different in characteristics.

Types of biomes

Biomes can be grouped into two categories, terrestrial biomes and aquatic biomes. Following is the detailed explanation of different kinds of biomes in terrestrial and aquatic types:

Terrestrial Biomes

Following are the different types of biomes that are grouped under terrestrial type:

Desert Biome

Desert biome is a kind of biome that is very hot and dry in nature. The flora and fauna of these biomes are adapted to sustain even in very little or no rainfall. The cactus, camels and burrowing owls are some species of living organisms that thrive in the desert biome. The physical characteristics of these species are built in such a way that they do not require much water. The Thar desert and the Sahara Desert are examples of the desert biome.



Tundra Biome

Tundra biomes are also the coldest biomes on the earth. Very few living species have the natural tendencies to exist and sustain in this biome. Tundra Biomes are characterized by **very less rain and freezing temperatures**. Lichen, Moses and polar bears are some of the species that thrive in the tundra biome. The high arctic tundra in the island of the arctic ocean is an example of the Tundra biome.



Chaparral Biome

Chaparral Biome is characterized by dry and hot temperatures in summer and moist and cool temperatures in winter. This biome faces frequent wildfire incidents. Snakes, lizards, shrubs and eucalyptus are some of the species that thrive in Chaparral Biome. Regions around the Mediterranean Sea are good examples of Chaparral Biome.



Forest Biome

The Forest biome is the most spread-out biome on the earth, with around 30% presence throughout the globe. This biome contributes to a large variety of trees and plantations on the planet. The forest biome is home to umpteen varieties of flora and fauna. Timber trees, rubber trees and all the so-called wild animals like elephants and bear find their residences in the forest biome.



Grassland Biome

Grassland biomes are predominantly characterized by the grasses that grow in the region. The temperature and the rainfall are just enough to encourage the growth of long grasses. Deer, Birds, wolves and lions are some of the species that sustain in the grassland biome. Some parts of India, South America and Australia are examples of Grassland Biome.



Taiga Biome

Taiga, also called the Boreal Forest, witnesses cold weather and snowfall for the majority of the period. The taiga biome is characterized by long and dry winters but cool and wet summers. Lynx, moose and woodpeckers are some of the species that sustain in Taiga Biome. The Alaska region is one of the primary examples of Taiga Biome.



Aquatic Biomes

The water bodies or the aquatic biomes cover almost 75% of the earth's surface. The aquatic biome is further sub-grouped into two types: Freshwater biomes and Marine Biomes. Following is the detailed explanation of these two subgroups of aquatic biomes:

Freshwater Biome

The freshwater biome mainly characterizes the smaller water bodies like ponds, rivers, lakes and wetlands. Some of the examples of freshwater biomes include River Ganga, River Yamuna and other ponds and lakes present in various villages and places.



Marine Biome

Marine Biome mainly characterizes the larger and vast bodies like seas and oceans. Some of the examples of marine biomes include the Indian Ocean, Bay of Bengal and other sea and ocean bodies.

