

Key Question: What kind of biome do we live in?

A **biome** is a natural area of plants and animals. The world is divided into lots of different biomes and they are all different depending on their **climate**. There is no exact number when it comes to types of biomes, but many people believe the terrestrial biomes can be grouped into the following main groups: **desert, forest, grassland, rainforest, tundra**.

Biomes can also be **aquatic** – relating to bodies of water. What lives in each biome depends on the following:

- How warm or cold it is
- How dry or wet it is
- How fertile the soil is

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Biome	Geographical area defined by its climate, plant and animal life
Climate	Weather patterns in a place over a long period
Deciduous	Forests which have 4 distinct seasons, with trees that drop their leaves in autumn
Desert	Area with very little rain, extreme heat/cold, where few forms of life can survive
Distribution	Where something is located
Grassland	Large area covered with grasses
Taiga	The world's biggest biome – forest in sub-arctic region
Temperate	A region characterized by mild temperatures
Tundra	From the Finnish 'tunturia', meaning barren or treeless land. Trees do not grow in the tundra because the ground is permanently frozen



Desert



Rainforest



Grassland



Temperate Forest



Tundra