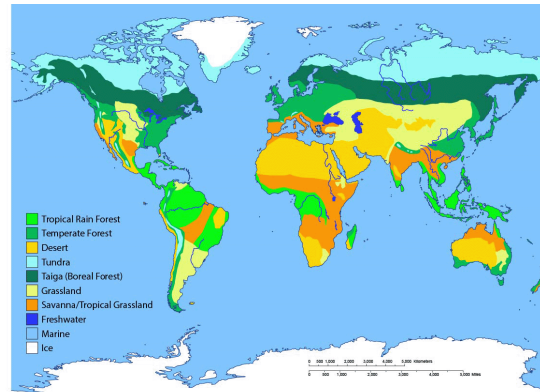


# Biomes and Climate Zones

## What is a biome?

Biomes are a way to categorize the Earth's surface. These categories are based on climate patterns, soil types, and the animals and plants that inhabit an area. There are terrestrial biomes and aquatic biomes. Every part of the Earth's surface is a part of one or more biomes. Biomes are directly linked to climate zones.



## Types of biomes

We are looking at the following biomes: temperate deciduous, desert, taiga, grassland and marine.

Temperate deciduous- Forest dominated by trees that lose their leaves each year.

Desert- An ecosystem that forms due to the low level of rainfall it receives each year.

Taiga- The largest terrestrial biome on Earth. The origin of the name 'taiga' is Russian and means land of the little sticks.

Grassland- Grasslands are wide expanses of land filled with low-growing plants such as grasses and wildflowers. The amount of precipitation is not enough to grow tall trees and produce a forest.

Marine- The marine biome is the biggest biome in the world. It covers about 70% of the Earth. Marine regions are saline.

## How do biomes differ?

## What should I already know?

Climate is the average weather expected in a place and weather is the day to day condition in a place. There are seven climate zones: polar, sub-polar, temperate, tropical, sub-tropical, equatorial and sub-equatorial.

## Key Vocabulary

terrestrial	On land
aquatic	In water
deciduous	Losing its leaves in Autumn
ecosystem	All the conditions, plants and animals that exist in a particular area
hibernate	Lie dormant (asleep) through winter
precipitation	Rain, snow, sleet or hail
saline	Containing salt
photosynthesis	The way that green plants make their food using sunlight
climate	The average expected weather in a place
inhabit	To live in