



biomes of the world





biomes of the world

hunterswoodspch.com

biome

a type of environment with a
distinct **climate** and its own
community of **plants and animals**

freshwater





bodies of water with $<1\%$ salt content



includes ponds, rivers, and lakes

marine





covers around 3/4 of the earth's surface



includes the ocean, coral reefs, and estuaries

grassland





large open areas where vegetation is mostly grass



two distinct types: tropical and temperate



tropical → savannas → close to the equator



temperate → prairies (taller grass) & steppes (shorter grass)

forest





dominated by trees and cover ~1/3 of the Earth



contain much of the world's terrestrial biodiversity



3 major forest biomes: temperate, tropical, and boreal



tropical → warm, humid, found close to the equator



temperate → higher latitudes, experience 4 seasons



boreal → taiga → coldest and driest climate

desert





very dry areas → can be hot or cold



vegetation & wildlife need special adaptations to survive



wildlife consists primarily of reptiles and small mammals



4 categories: hot and dry, semiarid, coastal, and cold



covers around 20 percent of the Earth's surface

tundra





extremely inhospitable conditions, with temps -34 to 12°C



two types: arctic and alpine



vegetation mostly shrubs, grasses, mosses & lichens



has a frozen layer under the soil surface → permafrost