

Biomes Worksheet

1. What is the role of lakeshore vegetation?

filters water

2. Serengeti National Park, in Tanzania, is home to huge herds of animals, such as wildebeests, zebras and Thomson's gazelles. All of these herbivores attract predators, such as lions, hyenas and leopards. Visitors can sometimes observe hundreds of wildebeests quietly grazing while a solitary lion watches them from the top of one of the rare trees in the park. Which biome does Serengeti National Park belong to?

grasslands + shrublands

3. Henry was walking in a forest by a lake when he came across a very different sort of environment. The soil there was spongy and covered in moss. When Henry poked the ground with a stick to see how firm it was, he was surprised to find that he could easily push the stick into the ground and that it came out wet. What type of environment has Henry found?

wetlands (peat bog)

4. As Kate watched a big "V" of snow geese make their way across the sky, she felt a twinge of sadness. She wondered whether these magnificent birds will be able to adapt to the disturbances in their habitat due to global warming.

a) In which biome do snow geese nest? arctic tundra

b) What is the ground like in this biome? permafrost

5. Many tourists come to Québec to watch whales, which thrive in certain waters because krill, their favourite food, grow in abundance at points where fresh water and salt water meet. In which of the province's biomes will tourists find whales?

estuary.

6. The Democratic Republic of Congo is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna. The flora consists of many species of trees and plants. The fauna includes some primate species, such as the gorilla. The mean temperature is 25°C. Which biome is found in the Congo?

tropical forest

7. Valerie is packing her suitcase for her next trip. Her list of personal belongings to bring includes the following:
- lightweight pants
 - long-sleeved lightweight blouses
 - hiking boots (recommended because of scorpions)
 - sunscreen
 - a scarf large enough to cover her head and mouth when it is windy
 - sunglasses
 - warm pyjamas

a) In which biome is Valerie going to be travelling? desert

b) Explain why she needs warm pyjamas.

hot during day, very cold at night
(few clouds to retain heat)

8. This biome has been largely destroyed all over the world to make way for towns and cities. Precipitation is high throughout the year, and the mean annual temperature is between 8°C and 10°C. Which biome is it?

temperate forest

9. The wildlife native to this environment varies greatly depending on the depth at which it lives. Brightly coloured creatures are found there as well as other strange animals without pigmentation because they live in the dark. Predators in this biome represent extremes, ranging from tiny organisms to huge beasts. Which biome is it?

oceans

10. What type of forest is shown below?



boreal forest

11. What are the main differences between tropical forests, boreal forests and temperate forests?

	<u>tropical</u>	<u>boreal</u>	<u>temperate</u>
* precipitation	• very humid		
* soil	• poor	poor/acidic	rich
* vegetation	• many trees/plants	conifers	decid + conif.
flora/fauna	• high biodiv.		

12. Which type of aquatic biome is illustrated in the photo opposite? Explain your answer.

wetland (marsh)



13. Explain how wetlands help reduce the risks of flooding.

act like a sponge
plant roots absorb water

14. Which type of aquatic biome matches each of the following descriptions?

a) Home to more than 500 000 animal and plant species.

coral reef

b) Where rivers and oceans meet.

estuary

c) Bodies of fresh water surrounded by land.

lake

d) Contain the greatest part of the water on Earth.

oceans

15. Look at the photo opposite.

a) Which biome is illustrated in this photo?

coral reef

b) Why is this biome at risk?

(pollution) \uparrow CO₂ = \uparrow acidity = coral bleaching
overfishing
tourism

c) Why is it important to protect it?

high biodiversity



16. The black bear is the most common bear in North America. Black bears usually live in forests and mountains, where they can find food and shelter and easily climb trees when they wish to escape danger. They are omnivores although their diet consists primarily of plants; they sometimes feed on insects, rodents and fawns. Black bears are good swimmers and can catch fish in rivers to supplement their diet. The forest where this black bear lives contains a mixture of coniferous and deciduous trees.

What type of forest is it? temperate forests

17. Match each of the species described below with the appropriate biome.

a) A fox lives in an environment with minimal vegetation: a few scrubby bushes, mosses and lichen. To hide from predators, the fox has adapted to its surroundings in a particular way: its fur turns white in winter to help it blend into the snowy landscape. arctic tundra

b) The Fraser fir puts down its roots in acidic soil. boreal forest

c) The minnow is a small fish, 10 cm long, which thrives in rapid currents and well-oxygenated water. river

d) Alligators live in slow-moving, shallow waters that are rich in vegetation. wetland (swamp)

18. Match each statement to a biome.

a) It is cold all year long and contains permafrost. arctic tundra

b) It rains all year long and holds 50-80% of species. tropical forest

c) The biome that has the ability to survive fires. grassland

19. Place the words ocean, lake, estuary and river in the order these words appear in terms of water flow.

lake → river* → estuary → ocean

20. Match the aquatic biomes (estuaries, oceans, coral reefs, lakes, rivers and wetlands) to their description.

a) Temperature and light varies with the depth of the water. ocean

b) Pollution, overfishing and global warming threaten its survival. coral reef

c) The biome is surrounded by land. lake

d) Biome where plants grow in saturated soil. wetland

e) Where a river empties into a sea. estuary

f) Characterized by the presence of calcium carbonate. coral reef

g) Area where water is mostly stagnant. wetland.

21. Where is the estuary located in Quebec? St. Lawrence (Québec / Pte des Monts)

22. Explain what corals are. animals that deposit calcium carbonate as they grow

23. In which freshwater biome do fish need to be able to adapt to a strong current? rivers

24. What concentration of salt distinguishes a body of water as being a freshwater biome or a salt water biome? fresh < 0.05%
salt > 3%