

Knowledge organiser

The six major biomes

1	Tropical rainforest	• Hot all year (25–30 °C) • Wet all year (2,000 mm of rainfall a year or more) • Dense forests with several layers of trees	
2	Savanna	• Hot all year (25–35 °C) • 500–1,000 mm of rainfall a year with a dry season (no rain) • Grasses, some shrubs and some trees that can cope with drought	
3	Desert	• Very hot during the days in summer (35–40 °C) • Very low rainfall (250 mm a year or less) • Very few plants: only those that can survive without rainfall	
4	Temperate deciduous forest	• Four seasons: hot in summer (25 °C) and cool in winter (5 °C) • Rainfall all year (around 1,000 mm) • Deciduous trees (trees that lose their leaves for winter)	
5	Coniferous forest (taiga)	• Mild summers (10–20 °C) but very cold winters (below 0 °C) • Low rainfall (500 mm a year or less), usually in summer • Evergreen trees (trees that keep their leaves throughout winter)	
6	Tundra	• Cold winters (below –30 °C) and cool summers (around 10 °C) • Low rainfall (around 200 mm a year) • Very few plants: only those that can survive freezing temperatures and drought	

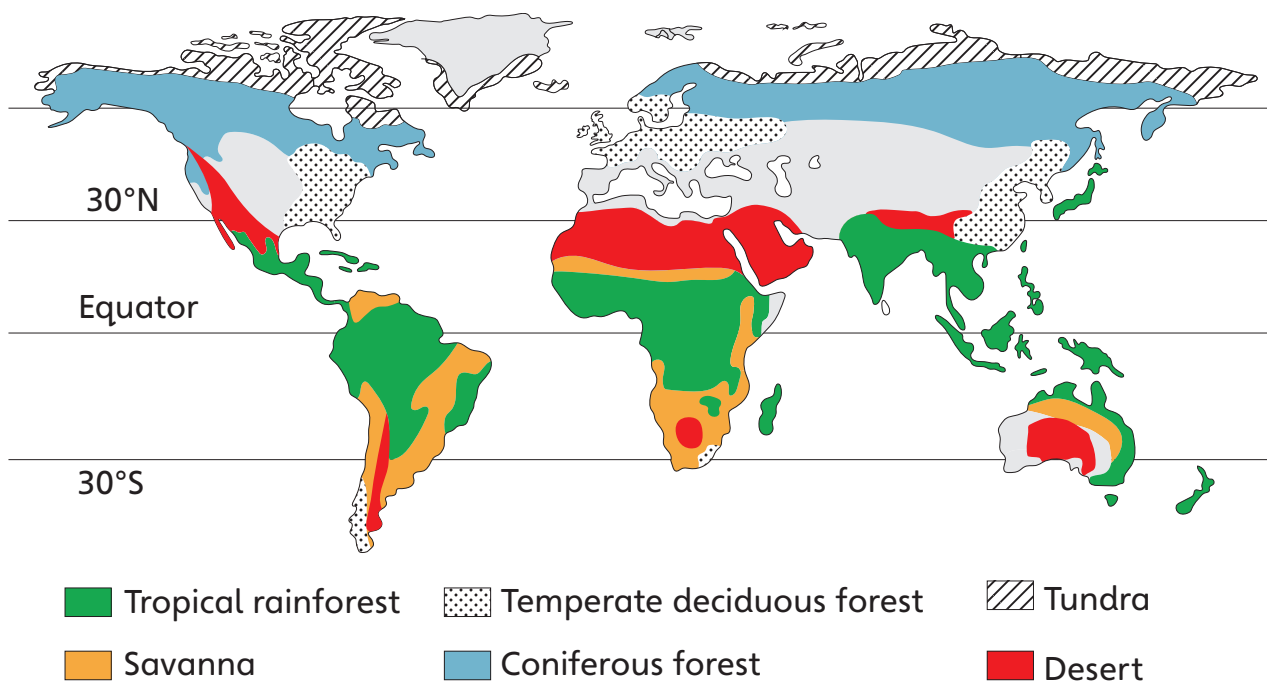
Vocabulary	
Adapted	Well suited to living in a particular biome
Biome	Very large region containing the same sort of climate, plants and animals
Climate	General or average weather conditions over a long period of time
Drought	Long period when there is much less rain than usual, leading to there not being enough water
Extinct	No longer alive as a species
Fossil fuels	Resources, such as coal, oil and natural gas, that contain a lot of carbon and release it when they are burnt
Greenhouse gases	Gases like water vapour, carbon dioxide and methane that trap heat in the atmosphere, warming it up
Permafrost	Layer of the ground under the surface that is permanently frozen
Wildfires	Fires that spread very quickly through forests and grasslands



drought



wildfire



A map showing where the six major biomes are across the world.