

Vocabulary

equator - An imaginary line around the centre of the Earth.

weather - A description of what the conditions are like in a particular place.

climate - A description of the average weather conditions in a certain place.

biome - Areas of our planet with similar climates, landscapes, animals and plants.

biodiversity - A wide variety of organisms in the world.

hemisphere - It is half the Earth divided into north and south by the equator.

vegetation - The plant life of a region.

adaptation - Special features that help a living organism to survive - either physical or behavioural.

ecosystem - A community of animals, plants and microorganisms together with their habitat.

environment - The physical surroundings, including everything living and non-living.

organism - An individual animal, plant or single-celled life form.

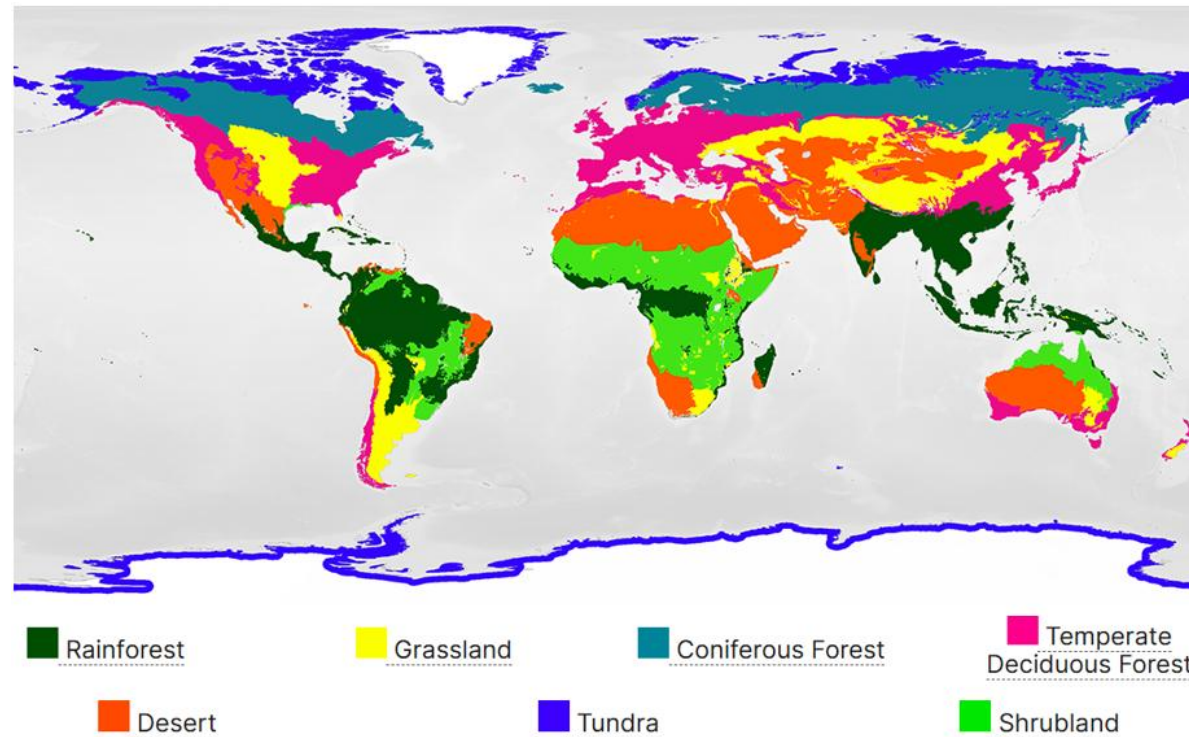
Can you find out which biome the UK is located in?



Biomes

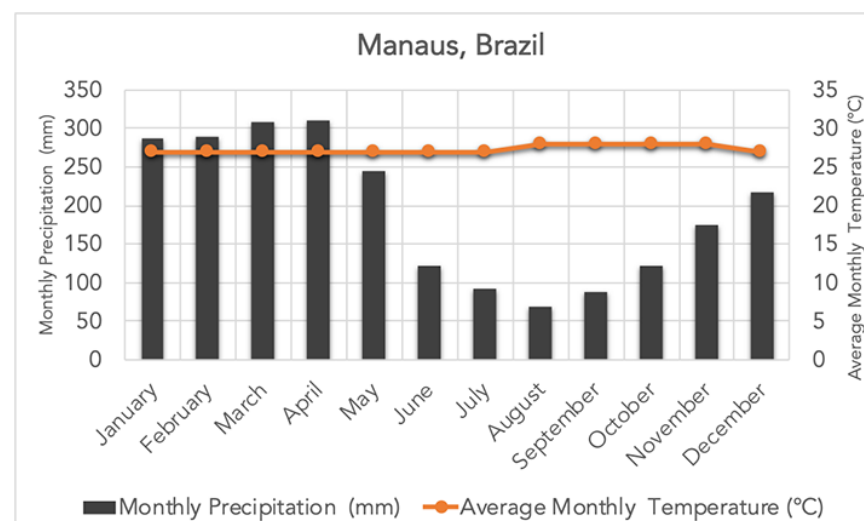


Year 5 – Geography/History Topic 1



Using a climate graph

A climate graph is a simple way to show the temperature and rainfall of a place over a year so we can understand its climate. The bars on the graph show how much rain falls each month, while the line shows how the temperature changes. By looking at both together, we can quickly spot patterns, such as hot, dry summers or cold, wet winters, and compare different biomes or locations around the world.



Dear Parents,

Our next topic is 'Biomes'. Please help your children to prepare for this topic by helping them to learn the key words (in purple) and the facts on this sheet.

There are some homework activities on the back of this sheet. Your child can complete these at any time. Your child's teacher would love to see what they have created, so please send these into school.

Thank you for your support.

Kind regards - Year 5 teachers

What is a biome?

Biomes are areas of our planet with similar climates, landscapes, animals and plants. What lives in each biome depends on:

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

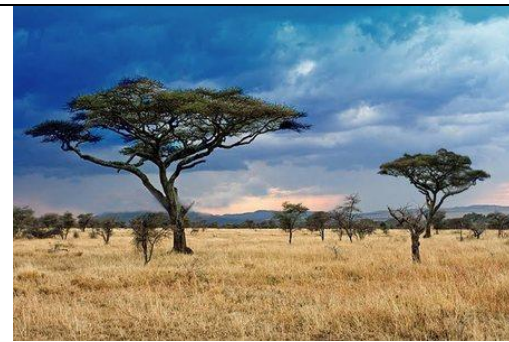
The plants and animals of each biome have characteristics that help them to survive in their particular biome. Plants and animals that live within smaller areas of a biome also depend on each other for survival. These smaller areas are called ecosystems.

Each individual plant and animal could not exist by itself on planet Earth. All living organisms need other living organisms to survive. How these organisms interact with the Sun, soil, water, air and each other in an area is called an ecosystem.

Each biome has many ecosystems.



rainforest - near the Equator, hot and wet all year, rich in plants and animals, poor soils.



grassland - hot with a wet and dry season, mainly grass and scrub and a few specially adapted trees.



temperate forest - cool summers and mild winters, rain throughout the year and rich deciduous woodland.



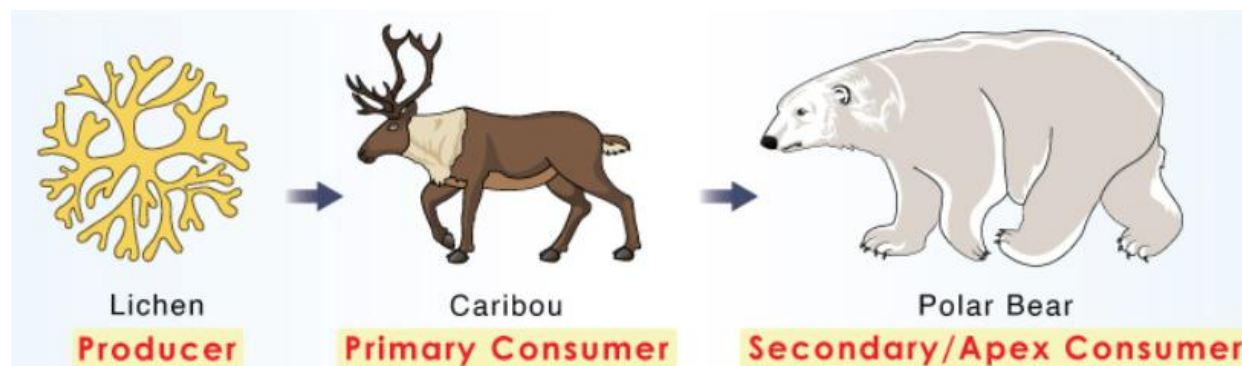
desert - very hot and dry and limited plants and water. Deserts can be hot or cold.



polar - defined by sub-freezing temperatures, severe winds, and long periods of total darkness or endless daylight

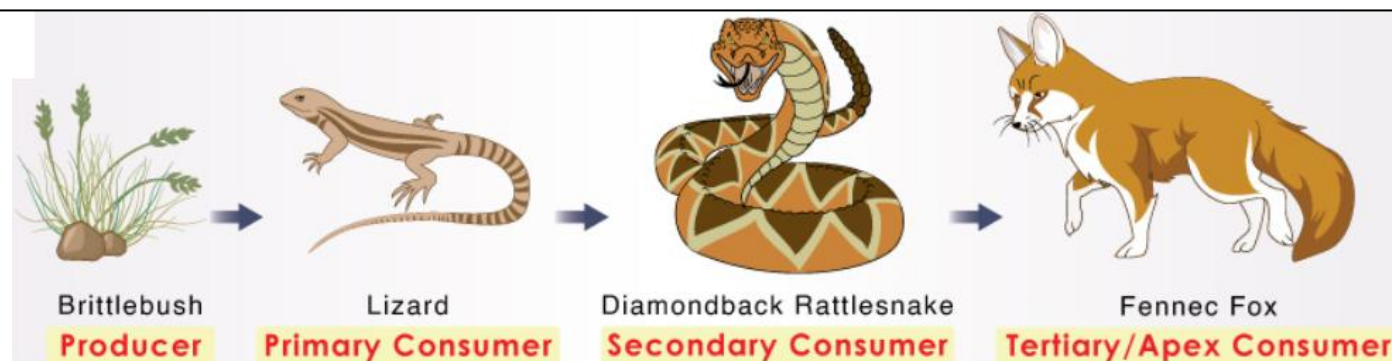


shrubland - made up of shrubs or short trees. Typically found in regions with hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters.



A food chain shows how energy passes from one living thing to another in an ecosystem. It always starts with a producer, usually a plant. Next come consumers—animals that eat plants or other animals. At the end of the chain is a predator or top consumer, which has no natural enemies in that chain. Arrows in a food chain show the direction of energy flow, meaning “who eats what.”

Which biome do you think these food chains belong to?



Homework Ideas:

- Choose a biome (rainforest, desert, tundra, etc.) and make a small shoebox model.
 - Include plants, animals, and features like sand, trees, snow, or water.
 - Add labels or a short explanation card describing why those plants and animals live there.
- Colour a world map and mark where major biomes are found.
 - Use a different colour or pattern for each biome.
 - Add a simple key and a few facts about two biomes of their choice.
- Choose one animal from a biome and create a colourful fact sheet.
 - Include its habitat, diet, predators, and special adaptations.
 - Add a labelled drawing or printed picture.
- Create a simple food chain from a chosen biome.
 - Use drawings, magazine cut-outs, or printed pictures.
 - Include at least a producer, consumer, and predator.
 - Add arrows to show the flow of energy.