

## Types of Biomes

**Oceans:** the largest and deepest biome on earth, covering nearly 71% of the earth's surface. It is home to a diverse array of plant and animal life, including coral reefs, whales, dolphins, and many other species.

**Freshwater biomes:** biomes that are found in bodies of water with a low salt content, including lakes, rivers, and streams. These biomes are home to many species of fish, amphibians, and other aquatic animals.

**Marine biomes:** biomes that are found in the ocean, including coral reefs, kelp forests, and estuaries. These biomes are home to a wide variety of plant and animal life, including fish, dolphins, whales, and many other species.

**Forests:** biomes characterized by dense tree cover and a high level of humidity. There are many different types of forests, including tropical rainforests, temperate deciduous forests, and boreal forests.

**Grasslands:** biomes characterized by rolling grassy plains and a temperate climate. There are two main types of grasslands: savannahs and temperate grasslands.

**Deserts:** Deserts are the driest places on Earth. There are three types of desert (hot, cold and coastal) but all of them have very little rainfall, strong winds and very few animals and plants. Therefore, deserts can be made up of sand, rock, gravel and even ice. Only animals and plants that need very little water can survive in this environment. When it finally does rain, it can be huge amounts and cause flooding. Some deserts can go years without seeing any rainfall at all.

**Tundra:** biomes characterized by cold temperatures and a lack of vegetation. Tundra can be found in the Arctic and in high mountain regions.

**Taiga:** is a forest of the cold, subarctic region. The subarctic is an area of the Northern Hemisphere that lies just south of the Arctic Circle. The taiga lies between the tundra to the north and temperate forests to the south. Alaska, Canada, Scandinavia, and Siberia have taigas.

### Adapting to survive

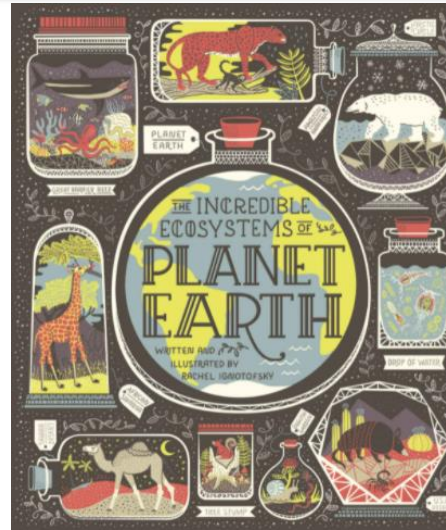


A camel has humps of fat storage to use up for energy in the dry desert when there is a shortage of food.

A cactus stores water to help keep it alive in the desert. It also has spikes to protect itself from attack.



# Biomes



## Key Vocabulary

<b>biome</b>	a large, distinct region of the earth's surface characterized by a particular type of climate and plant and animal life
<b>arid</b>	having little or no rain; too dry to grow vegetation
<b>aquatic biomes:</b>	biomes that are found in water, including ponds, oceans, lakes, and rivers
<b>terrestrial biomes:</b>	biomes that are found on land, including forests, grasslands, deserts, and tundra
<b>drought</b>	a period of time with so little rain, crops do not grow
<b>erosion</b>	the wearing away of the land
<b>climate</b>	the long-term weather patterns of a specific region
<b>nocturnal</b>	due to heat, many animals sleep in the day and hunt at night
<b>nomadic</b>	moves from place to place / hunter-gatherer
<b>fragile ecosystem</b>	ecosystems that are vulnerable to disruption or destruction
<b>plateau</b>	High, flat land where cold deserts can be found
<b>precipitation</b>	any form of water that falls to the ground (rain, sleet, snow etc)
<b>adaptation</b>	the process by which an organism changes over time to better survive in its environment

## World Biomes Map

