

Did you know?

Why are Jungles so wet and deserts so hot?



Vocabulary

Climate - the regular pattern of weather conditions of a particular place

Biome - the characteristic plants and animals that exist in a particular type of environment, for example in a forest or desert

Global - covering or affecting the whole world

Tropical rainforest - a thick forest in tropical parts of the world that have a lot of rain

Hot desert - a large area of land that has very little water and very few plants growing on it. Many deserts are covered by sand.

Equator - an imaginary line around the earth at an equal distance from the North and South Poles

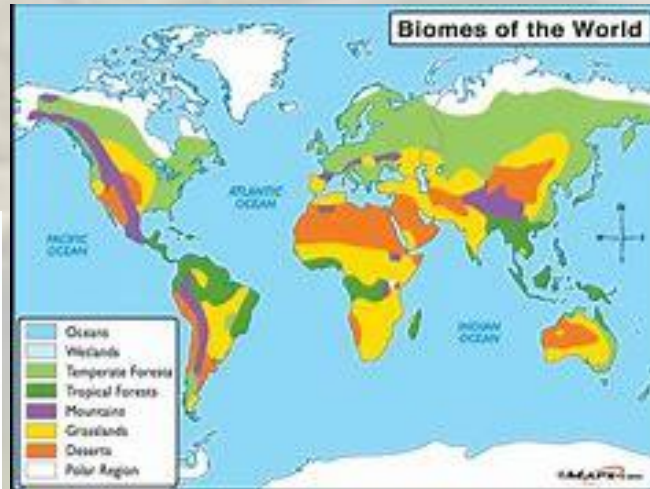
Hemisphere - one half of the earth, especially the half above (Northern) or below (Southern) the equator

Humid - (of the air or climate) warm and damp

Drought - a long period of time when there is little or no rain

Carnivore - any animal that eats meat

Herbivore - any animal that eats only plants



FACT FILE

Weather is the condition of the atmosphere at a particular place and time, such as the temperature, and if there is wind, rain, sun, etc.

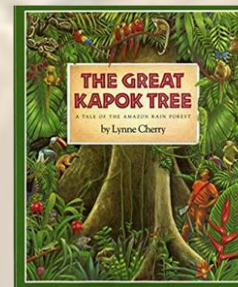
The climate in the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) is considered temperate – often cool and cloudy with infrequent high temperatures.

Climate varies, even across a relatively small country in terms of land area as in the UK. There are different climate zones across the world.

The landscapes, plants and animals within the different biomes are determined largely by climate.

There's lots to find out to compare two biomes - the tropical rainforest biome of the Amazon Basin and the hot desert biome of the Atacama Desert.

Rainforests are the world's oldest natural habitats. An amazing array of animals and plants have evolved within them. The rainforest habitat is divided into layers including the forest floor, (which is rich in nutrients and home to insects, snake and small mammals), the understory, (which is the middle layer where ferns, vines and creepers grow), the canopy and the emergent layer. The emergent layer is made up of the tops of the tallest trees, some stretching as high as 120 feet.



Tiger in Tropical Storm Henri Rousseau 1891