



Biomes - Temperate Deciduous Forest and Taiga

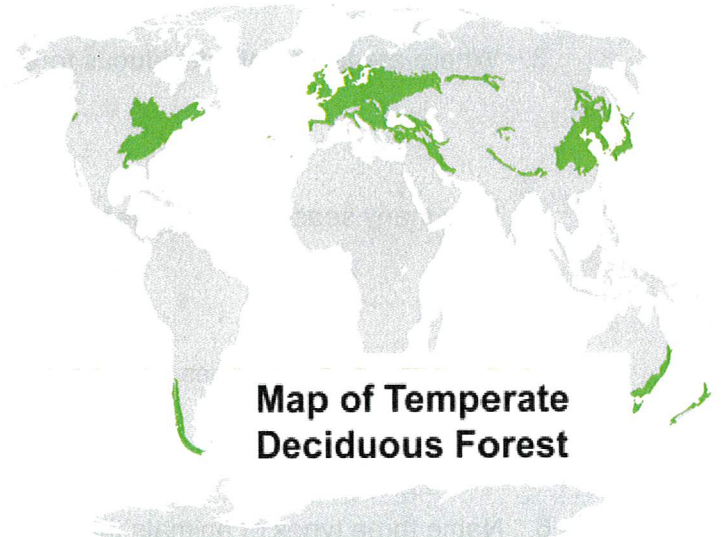
.What is a Biome?

A **biome** is a large area on Earth that has a similar **climate**, **plants**, and **animals**.

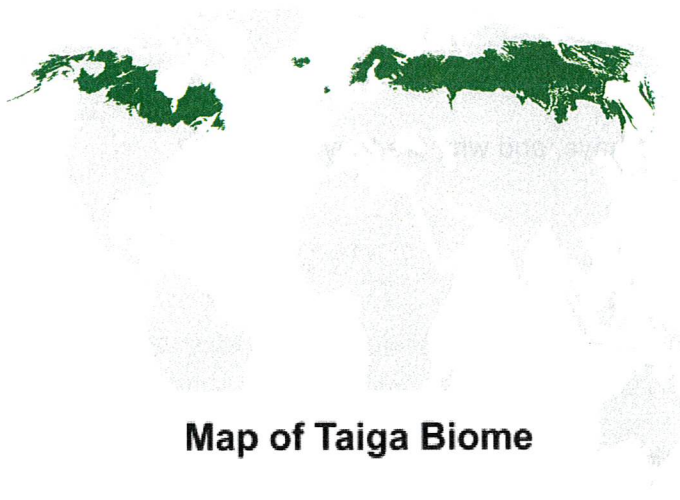
- Examples: **Desert, Rainforest, Grassland, Forest**
- The type of biome depends on things like **temperature** and **rainfall**.

Temperate Deciduous Forest

Temperate deciduous forests are found in parts of Europe, North America, and Asia. These forests have **four distinct seasons**: spring, summer, autumn, and winter. The weather is moderate, and it rains fairly evenly throughout the year. The main plants in these forests are **deciduous trees**, such as oak, maple, and beech, which **lose their leaves in winter** to save water and survive the cold. Beneath the tall trees, smaller plants like ferns, shrubs, and wildflowers grow. Animals that live in these forests include **deer, foxes, squirrels, birds, and insects**. These forests are beautiful in autumn when the leaves change color before falling.



Map of Temperate Deciduous Forest



Map of Taiga Biome

Taiga (Coniferous Forest)

The taiga, also called the coniferous forest, is found in **Canada, Russia, and Scandinavia**. This biome has **long, cold winters** and short, mild summers. Most of the precipitation comes as snow in winter. The trees in the taiga are **coniferous**, such as pine, spruce, and fir. These trees have **needle-like leaves that stay green all year** and help them survive the cold and retain water. Animals that live in the taiga include **wolves, bears, moose, lynx, and owls**. The taiga is the largest land biome in the world, and it is very important for producing oxygen and storing carbon.

Key Differences Between the Forests

Deciduous forests have trees that **lose their leaves in winter**, while coniferous forests have trees that **keep their needles all year**. Deciduous forests are found in **temperate regions** with four seasons, whereas coniferous forests are mostly in **northern, cold regions**. The types of animals also differ: deer and squirrels are common in deciduous forests, while wolves and moose live in the taiga.



Question Sheet - Biomes

1. What is a biome?
2. What factors determine the type of biome in an area?
3. Where are temperate deciduous forests found?
4. How many seasons do temperate deciduous forests have, and what are they?
5. Why do deciduous trees lose their leaves in winter?
6. Name three types of animals that live in temperate deciduous forests.
7. Where is the taiga (coniferous forest) located?
8. What type of leaves do trees in the taiga have, and why are they important?
9. Name three animals that live in the taiga.
10. List two main differences between deciduous and coniferous forests.
11. Why is the taiga considered an important biome for the planet?

How did the Romans change Britain?

The Roman Empire transformed life for the people of Britain; they brought new types of infrastructure, culture, and economic ideas with them.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure is the basic facilities, services, and institutions that make a country work. The Romans brought new types of infrastructure with them. Roman forts grew into British towns, with the accompanying aqueducts and bath houses.

The Romans built around 2,000 miles of Roads criss-crossing what would later become England and Wales. These roads were well organised and maintained. They were paved to take heavy goods traffic. They even had service stations called *mutationes* where travellers could rest their horses and get a drink and something to eat.



Culture

The Romans had a written culture and language. The letters on this page come from the Roman (Latin) alphabet! There is no record of any system of writing being used in Britain before the Romans came.

By bringing a system of writing to Britain the Romans allowed a more complex society to evolve; one that had written laws and long distance communications. The Roman legal code still forms the basis for much of the English legal system into the modern day.

Economy

Going hand in hand with this more complex society was a more complex economy. Romans loved their luxuries and traded goods all across the empire. Britain became part of this long distance trade, importing wine and olive oil from Greece and Egypt, and exporting gold and tin to Rome and Spain.



The Romans replaced Britain's barter (swapping stuff) economy with an economy based on money. Roman coins have been found all over England and Wales, and these coin hordes paint a picture of Britain as a rich and prosperous province of the Roman Empire.

This prosperity and complexity brought with it specialised jobs too. People were able to become craftsmen in the towns - bakers, shoemakers, blacksmiths. A money economy with long distance trade allowed some Britons to turn from subsistence farming into the earliest "professional" jobs - the first step in becoming a developed economy.

How did the Romans Change Britain?

- 1) What is infrastructure?
- 2) How did Romans influence the growth of British towns?
- 3) What important buildings did the Romans build in most towns?
- 4) How many miles of roads did the Romans build across Britain?
- 5) Why were roads useful to the Romans?
- 6) What alphabet has been used to write this question?
- 7) How did writing change society and culture in Britain?
- 8) What is Trade?
- 9) What sort of goods did Britain import?
- 10) What sort of goods did Britain export?
- 11) What is a barter economy?
- 12) What was the Roman economy based on?
- 13) How did a money economy change the types of jobs people could do?
- 14) Do you think the Roman Empire was a positive thing for Britain?
Write a short paragraph to justify your opinion.