The World’s Terrestrial Biomes WebQuest

**What is a Biome?** Go to the following website and answer the questions below:
http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/world_biomes.htm

1. What is a Biome? __________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________
2. What determines what type of biome can exist in a region? _________________
3. Each biome consists of many ____________________ whose communities have ____________
   to the small differences in ________________________________________________________
4. All living things are closely related to their ___________________. Any change in one part of an environment causes a _______________________________________________________________________________
5. List the 10 types of biomes represented on the map: _________________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________

**Tundra** Chick on the link for “Tundra” or go to the following webpage:
http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/tundra.htm

6. How long ago was the tundra formed? ____________________________________________
7. The bare and rocky ground can only support what kinds of plants and animals? __________________________
   __________________________________________________________________________
8. What are the 2 main seasons here? _______________________________
9. In the winter, how long can the nights last? ______________
   How cold can it get? _____________ In the summer, how long can the days last? ______________
   How warm can it get? _____________
10. The tundra is basically like a ______________ when it comes to precipitation. How much precipitation does it get a year? ____________________________

**Taiga** Go back to the main page and click “Taiga” or go to the following webpage: http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/taiga.htm

11. Taiga is the Russian word for _______________ and is _______________
12. A lot of ____________________ grow in the taiga. The taiga is also known as the _____________________.
13. What are the 2 main seasons here? _______________________________
14. The winters can be as cold as _____________ and the summers can be as hot as ________________.
15. Not many plants can survive the __________________________________________________________________________
**Grasslands** Go back to the main page and click “Grasslands” or go to the following webpage: [http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/grasslands.htm](http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/grasslands.htm)

16. Grassland biomes are ____________________________

17. What 3 factors determine what kinds of plants grow in a particular grassland?

18. A grassland is a region where the average annual precipitation is ________

The precipitation is so erratic that ____________ and __________ prevent ______________________ from growing.

19. There are two different types of grasslands: 1) tall-grass, which are ________

________________________, and 2) short-grass, which are________________________

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**Deciduous Forest** Go back to the main page and click “Grasslands” or go to the following webpage: [http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/deciduous_forest.htm](http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/deciduous_forest.htm)

20. The average annual temperature in a deciduous forest is _________. The average rainfall

is ________ to ________ inches a year.

21. What are the 5 zones of the deciduous forest?

1. ____________________________

2. ____________________________

3. ____________________________

4. ____________________________

5. ____________________________

22. What are the 4 seasons in a Deciduous forest?

23. A “deciduous forest” means a forest in which ____________________________

__________________________________________

24. What is the soil like? ____________________________

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**Chaparral** Go back to the main page and click “Chaparral” or go to the following webpage: [http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/chaparral.htm](http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/chaparral.htm)

25. The chaparral biome has many different types of terrain. Some examples are ____________________________

26. Chaparral is characterized as being ____________________________.

The winter is very ________ and is usually about ________°C. Then there is the summer. It is so hot and dry at ________°C that

________________________ and __________________________ are very common.

26. The plants and animals are all mainly grassland and desert types adapted to ____________________________
Desert
Go back to the main page and click “Deserts” or go to the following webpage:
http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/desert.htm
27. What are the 2 types of deserts? ____________________________
28. In hot deserts, the only animals they have that can survive have the
ability to ____________________________________. They only come
out _____________________________________________________.
29. In a cold desert, it never gets warm __________________________
__________________________________________________________.
30. Deserts cover about _____________________ of the Earth's land surface.
31. The precipitation in these different types of deserts is different. Hot and Dry Deserts usually
have ____________________________________ This averages out to under _____cm a year. Cold Deserts usually have
________________________________________ They also have rain around spring. This averages out to _________
cm a year.

Savannah
Go back to the main page and click “Savannah” or go to the following webpage:
http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/savanna.htm
32. A savanna is a __________________________________________
_________________ which can be found between ____________________
____________________________________.
33. Savannas have warm ____________________________________.
There are actually two very different seasons in a savanna; _____________
_____________________________________________________________
In the dry season only an average of about _______ of rain falls. Between
________________________ and __________________ no rain will fall at all.
In Africa the ______________________________ begin in May. An average of _______ to
________________________ inches of rain falls during this time.
34. Many large grass-eating mammals (_________________) can survive here because ________
________________________ There are also lots of carnivores (_________________) who eat them in turn.
35. How are Plants of the savannas highly specialized to grow in this environment of long
periods of drought? ____________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
36. How are animals adapted to living in this environment? ____________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
37. How is it possible for so many different carnivores, like lions, leopards, cheetahs, jackals and
hyenas to live together? _________________________________________
**Rainforest** Go back to the main page and click “Rainforest” or go to the following webpage: [http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/rainforest.htm](http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/rainforest.htm)

38. On average, how much rain falls here every year? ___________________________

39. Rainforests now cover less than _____% of Earth's land surface. Scientists estimate________________________________________________________

40. Tropical rainforests produce how much Earth's oxygen? __________
   How many medicines that we use come from the rainforest? __________

41. What are the 4 layers of the rainforest? __________________________

42. How much light reaches the bottom layer of the forest? __________

43. Describe the soil in these forests: __________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

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**Alpine** Go back to the main page and click “Alpine” or go to the following webpage: [http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/alpine.htm](http://www.blueplanetbiomes.org/alpine.htm)

44. What is the Latin word for “high mountain”? _________________

45. At what altitude are alpine forests usually found? ______________

46. If you started out in the North American desert biome and then traveled to climb upward, what biomes (in order) would you travel through before you reached the Alpine biome? ___________________
   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

47. What are 2 ways that plants have adapted to life in this region? __________________________
   __________________________________________________________________

48. What is the soil like in these regions? __________ Why? ________________
   ____________________________________________________________________

49. What 2 problems do alpine animals have to deal with? _________________
   As a result, what types of animals do you find here? ___________________

50. What adaptations do animals in this area have to deal with this climate? ________________
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________