Biome Scavenger Hunt

Teacher Instructions:

Each team of 3 will be given a set of cards with the biomes listed on it. Students must read the information on the posters handing around the room, fill in their sheet and then drop off the card at their designated station. Students will then continue around the room to each poster to find all the biome characteristics. The first 2 teams to complete all the biomes will get a prize.

Tundra	Taiga	Deciduous Forest	Tropical Rainforest
Grassland	Savanna	Desert	
Marine Biome	Freshwater Biome	Oceanic Zone	Neritic Zone
Intertidal Zone	Photic Zone	Aphotic Zone	Pelagic Zone
Benthic Zone	Estuaries		

Team 1	Team 2
Team 3	Team 4
Team 5	Team 6
Team 7	Team 8
Team 9	Team 10

Biome Scavenger Hunt

Terrestrial Biomes	Key Physical Features	Climate	Soil	Location
Tundra				
Taiga				
Deciduous Forest				
Grassland				
Desert				
Savanna				
Tropical Rain Forest				

Water Biomes	Major Characteristics
Marine Biome	
Oceanic Zone	
Neritic Zone	
Intertidal Zone	
Photic Zone	
Aphotic Zone	
Pelagic Zone	
Benthic Zone	
Freshwater Biome	
Estuaries	

Tundra

Key Physical Features: Cold and largely treeless

Climate: Coldest biome with little precipitation

Soil: nutrient poor soil

Location: Northern-most biome

Taiga

Key Physical Features: Conebearing trees, plants adapted to the climate and animal hibernate or migrate in the winter

Climate: Short summers and long cold winters

Soil: nutrient poor soil

Location: Second-most northern biome, Canada, northwestern US

Deciduous Forest

Key Physical Features: Pronounced seasons and trees lose their leaves in the fall to conserve water

Climate: Warm/hot summers and mild/cold winters

Soil: Fertile

Location: Eastern US, Europe, and Japan

Grasslands

Key Physical Features: Dominated by grasses, herbs and shrubs

Climate: Too dry to support most trees

Soil: Rich, fertile soil

Location: Mid-west US

Savanna

Key Physical Features: Contains some trees that are adapted to survive in long period without rain, contains lions and elephants

Climate: Alternating wet and dry seasons

Soil: Soil low in nutrients

Location: Africa, northern Australia

Desert

Key Physical Features: Sparse vegetation with little rainfall

Climate: Very little precipitation and not all are hot

Soil: Sandy and low in nutrients

Location: Southwestern US (Nevada), Mexico, Africa

Tropical Rainforest

Key Physical Features: Largest biodiversity on land with tall trees

Climate: Plenty of rainfall for a stable year round growing season

Soil: Nutrient poor

Location: Along the equator, South and Central America, Africa Marine

Key Physical Features: Contains more than 1% salt in the water

Zones: Each zone contains different organisms that are able to survive in that area

Oceanic zone

Open sea zone

Neritic zone

Zone over the continental shelf that contains coral reefs

Intertidal zone

Zone exposed to air part of the day due to tides

Photic zone

Zone that has light

Aphotic zone

Zone that has no light

Pelagic zone

Zone that stretches from the surface to deep into the ocean

Benthic zone

Zone along the ocean floor

Freshwater

Key Physical Features: Contains less than 1% salt in the water

Examples: Lakes, ponds, rivers, streams, wetlands

Estuaries

Key Physical Features: Mixture of fresh and salt water

Location: long the coast and behind islands