

Student Essay on Deciduous Forest

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Essay

The deciduous forest can be found in the eastern half of North America and the middle of Europe. South America has two big areas of deciduous forest; Southern Chili and Middle East Coast of Paraguay. In deciduous forests there are five different zones. The first zone is the Tree stratum zone, small tree and sapling zone, shrub zone, herb zone, and ground zone. In the autumn leaves change their color and turn pretty pink or light orange and during winter the trees lose their leaves.

The average annual rain fall is 30- 60 inches a year. The average temperature in a deciduous forest is 50 degrees Fahrenheit. The deciduous forest has four seasons; spring, summer, fall, and winter. It's windy in the fall, in springs it's breezy and cool, summer it's usually very hot, and winter it's usually very cold.

The animals adapt to the climate by hibernating in the winter and living off the land in the other seasons. Trees provide shelter, food, and water sources for them. There are many types of animals in the deciduous forest like the Bald Eagle, Coyote, and many types of insects. They even have squirrels; the European Red Squirrels lived in the European deciduous forest. Like all other squirrels, this Red squirrel is a rodent. It has strong teeth and sharp claws to help them climb trees. The red squirrel has a long bushy tail that he uses to balance his weight while climbing a tree. The squirrel is about 36.5 centimeters long. If the squirrel is mad, it wags its tail back and fourth like a flag. The Red squirrel lives about 4-6 years. They do not hibernate but stay in their nests called Dreys while it's cold. They feed on seeds, acorns, hazelnuts, and chestnuts. They also eat fungi, berries, and caterpillars.

In autumn, squirrels burry seeds and nuts for the winter. The European Red Squirrel predators are birds of prey. The red squirrel is mostly a herbivore and it will eat bird eggs and sometimes nestlings too. The European red squirrel has become extinct throughout most of England and Wales. The reason of the extinction is because they cannot adapt to the environment that the grey squirrels created. They are also endangered because their habitats are being destroyed. We need to lower the grey squirrel population to keep the European red squirrels alive.