

# Biome Encyclopedia Article

## Biome

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# Contents

<a href="#">Biome Encyclopedia Article.....</a>	<a href="#">1</a>
<a href="#">Contents.....</a>	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">Biome.....</a>	<a href="#">3</a>

# Biome

A large terrestrial **ecosystem** characterized by distinctive kinds of plants and animals and maintained by a distinct **climate** and **soil** conditions. To illustrate, the **desert** biome is characterized by low annual rainfall and high rates of evaporation, resulting in dry environmental conditions. Plants and animals that thrive in such conditions include cacti, brush, lizards, insects, and small rodents. Special adaptations, such as waxy plant leaves, allow organisms to survive under low moisture conditions. Other examples of biomes include **tropical rain forest**, arctic **tundra**, **grasslands**, temperate **deciduous forest**, **coniferous forest**, tropical **savanna**, and Mediterranean **chaparral**.