Biomes and Description

## **Desert Biomes**

### **Hot and Cold**

* sand few shrubs

### **Semiarid Desert**

* The soil can range from sandy and fine-textured to loose rock fragments, gravel or sand

### **Coastal Desert**

* Desert near water with sand and chunks of rocks.

### **Cold Desert**

* These deserts are characterized by cold winters with snowfall and high overall rainfall throughout the winter and occasionally over the summer.

## **Forest Biomes**

### **Tropical**

* rainforest

### **Temperate**

* Evergreen forests

### **Boreal (taiga) Forest**

* forests in Indiana

## **Grassland Biomes**

### **Tropical (savanna)**

* Savanna is grassland with scattered individual trees

### **Temperate**

* Temperate grasslands are characterized as having grasses as the dominant vegetation. Trees and large shrubs are absent.

### **Steppe**

* + - are dry areas of grassland with hot summers and cold winters.

## **Tundra Biomes**

### **Ice Cap**

* polar ice cap like antarctica; similar or rather same as a cold desert

### **Arctic**

* A layer of permanently frozen subsoil called permafrost exists, consisting mostly of gravel and finer material.
* low shrubs, sedges, reindeer mosses, liverworts, and grasses

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### **Alpine**

* Alpine tundra is located on mountains throughout the world at high altitude where trees cannot grow.
* tussock grasses, dwarf trees, small-leafed shrubs, and heaths

## **Aquatic Biomes**

### **Freshwater**

#### **Ponds and Lakes**

#### **Streams and Rivers**

#### **Wetlands**

* + Wetlands are areas of standing water that support aquatic plants. Marshes, swamps, and bogs are all considered wetlands

### **Marine**

#### **Oceans**

#### **Coral reefs**

#### **Estuaries**

* + areas where freshwater streams or rivers merge with the ocean.

**Whittaker Graph -** for placement of biomes based on precipitation and temperature

<http://w3.marietta.edu/~biol/biomes/biome_main.htm>