

Key stage 2

Pupil B – Piece E: an information text

Context: after reading 'Survivors' by David Long and watching David Attenborough's 'Planet Earth', pupils were asked to write about biomes using vocabulary displayed on the geography working wall.

Tundra



Tundra is a frozen, treeless polar biome with Arctic temperatures from -34° to -6° . The lack of sunlight is a big issue in this biome due to the weather and long winters.

This biome is located in North America, Russia, Iceland and Greenland. The animals here are Musk ox, Arctic hare, Polar bear, Reindeer, Arctic Fox and the Alaska.

Rainforest



The rainforest is a tropical biome with the equator very close. This biome has many different temperatures (28° on average) due to the location. It is located in South America, Australia, Africa and Asia. The rainforest is home to some of the largest trees including the Dain Tree that has

been growing for over 180 million years. Animals here include

the pink dolphin and anacondas. They have adapted to this environment because of the temperature and how dark it is. ^{Additionally,} The rainforest has trees as high as 200 feet, explaining why it is so dense and dark.

~~Therefore~~ ^{Also,} there are over 3000 different fruits growing on the trees, which could possibly be dangerous.

Desert



The driest biome is the desert reaching to about 110 degrees Fahrenheit. Some deserts can get only an inch of rainfall a year with high temperatures and minimal water. In this biome, the plants (cacti) evolve to save water since water supply is low. The animals here adapt by not needing a lot of water and being able to blend in such as the chameleons with their big long tongues. The camels here can travel 100 miles without needing water making them a tourist attraction.

Savannah



The tropical Savannah biome is a vast grassland (covering 20% of land) located in: Africa, Northern Australia and parts of South America. It is an extremely hot environment (with two seasons - wet and dry) which makes it inhospitable for lots of species. Here, the average temperature is 20° - 30° ; however, there is minimal shade or water. This makes it feel a lot hotter. In the dry season, animals have to migrate to find water. The animals in this biome are extremely interesting. It is a wild feeding frenzy of predators and prey. The predators have adapted to use the long grass to attack their prey; for example, the cheetah. Although, there are numerous herbivores that have so much grass to graze on. Animals, such as elephants, get up to 50% of their diet from grasses - relying on trees and shrubs in the dry season.

Taiga



Taiga is one of the biggest biomes covering quite a lot of the planet. 0° is the average temperature per year but in the summer the average is around 15° . The South Arctic Circle, Canada, Alaska, Scandinavia and Siberia all have the Taiga biome. Animals living there need to adapt to the cold. They do this migrating in the cold months or producing another layer of insulation to keep warm. The animals here are Wolverine, Snow-shoe hare, American marten and a Canada lynx. As well as this, the plants here include Pine (Pinus) and Spruce.

Deciduous Forest



Located in eastern US, all over Europe, Japan, Russia and China all are parts of the deciduous forest. The daily temperature here is around 30° but drops dramatically due to the four seasons; Spring, Summer, autumn and winter. This beautiful biome has 3 layers and the tallest trees make up a canopy with ferns and moss growing on the floor. This forest is home to many animals including deer, wolves, hawks and

Owls. The birds here migrate South for the Winter except for the black-capped chickadees, they survive by hiding thousands of seeds under tree bark during fall and eat them throughout the Winter.