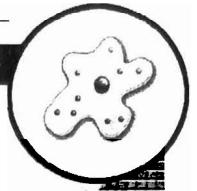


Name: _____

Date: _____

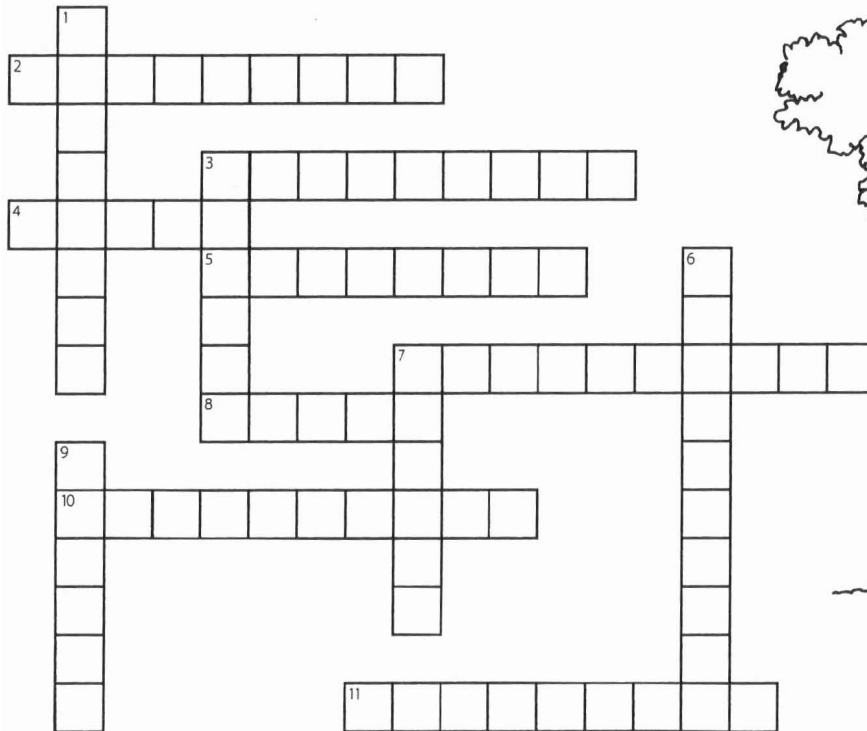
ECOSYSTEMS AND BIOMES



Biome Characteristics

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DIRECTIONS: Complete the crossword puzzle.



ACROSS

2. biome with plants and grasses, but no trees; receives 25–75 cm of precipitation a year
3. type of tree that loses and regrows leaves each year
4. a group of ecosystems with similar organisms and climates
5. biome that receives 50–150 cm of precipitation a year; has many scattered shrubs, tall grasses, and small trees
7. cone-producing trees with needlelike leaves that remain green all year
8. northern biome with many coniferous trees; very cold temperatures in the winter months
10. area of the forest below the canopy, where shorter plants grow

11. forest biome with many different trees, mosses, and ferns; most trees lose and regrow their leaves each year.

DOWN

1. type of rain forest biome near the equator; receives a lot of rain; temperatures are warm all year
3. biome that receives less than 25 cm of precipitation throughout the year; has many different species of cacti and reptiles
6. frozen soil
7. area of the forest that is formed by the leaves of tall trees
9. cold, dry biome, where the soil stays frozen the entire year; very little precipitation falls



Name: _____ Date: _____

ECOSYSTEMS AND BIOMES

What Is Each Biome Like?

FILL IN THE BLANKS

DIRECTIONS: Each **biome** has certain types of plants and animals that have adapted to living there. Use the biomes in the word bank to fill in the blank for each biome characteristic below. You will use each type of biome several times.

WORD BANK

tropical rain forest
desert

taiga
deciduous forest

tundra
grassland

1. _____ biome with the largest diversity of animal and plant life
2. _____ evergreen trees that can stand the cold temperatures
3. _____ tall canopy of trees that lets very little light through to the understory
4. _____ many types of deciduous trees, such as oaks, birches, and maples
5. _____ animals such as hawks, deer, moose, and wolves
6. _____ extreme temperatures during the day and night; very little rainfall
7. _____ large amounts of rainfall
8. _____ animals such as insects, spiders, reptiles, and birds; many inactive during the hot days
9. _____ rich soil; tall grasses that provide food and shelter for many animals
10. _____ long, cold winters
11. _____ animals such as squirrels, rabbits, wolves, and bears
12. _____ permafrost soil frozen all year long
13. _____ very few tall plants grow in the sandy or rocky soil
14. _____ conifer trees with needlelike leaves, such as pines, firs, and spruces
15. _____ thin, nutrient-poor, acidic soil
16. _____ animals such as zebras, lions, rhinoceroses, and owls
17. _____ plants such as prickly pears, yucca, and brittlebush
18. _____ animals such as polar bears, arctic foxes, and mountain goats



Where Are the World's Biomes?

MAP SKILLS

DIRECTIONS: Earth's **biomes** are very different from each other. They have different amounts of rainfall, kinds of climates, and types of plants and animals. Use the information from Biome Characteristics on page 111 and What Is Each Biome Like? on page 112 to help you determine where each biome is located. Use colorful pencils or crayons to color each biome on the world map below. Color the key to identify each of the major land biomes.

MAP KEY

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | tundra | <input type="checkbox"/> | taiga |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | tropical rain forest | <input type="checkbox"/> | desert |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | grassland | <input type="checkbox"/> | deciduous forest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | savannah | | |

