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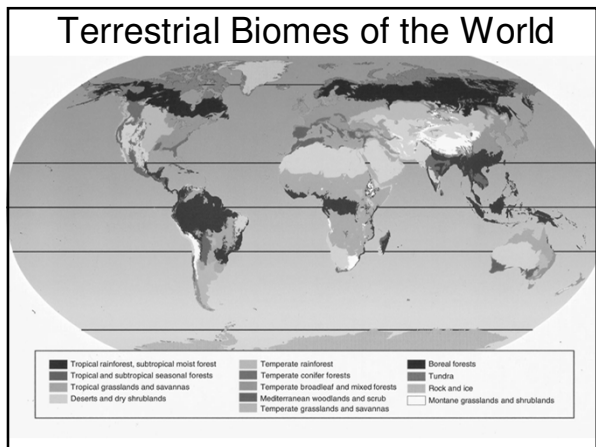
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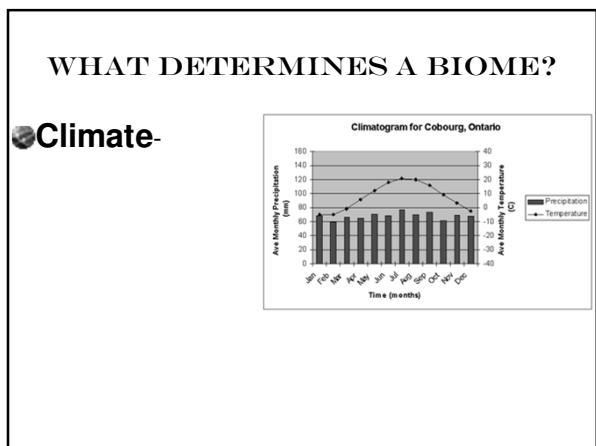
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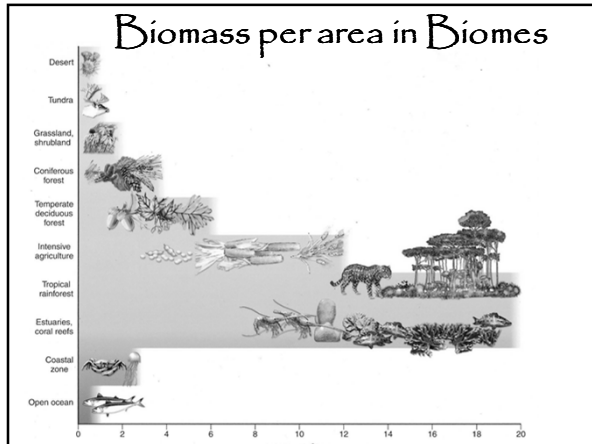
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### Characteristics of all Biomes

- ✂ not uniform
- ✂ Consist of a
- ✂ Communities
- ✂ Different

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### Tropical Rain Forest

- Precipitation 80-180" a year
- High rainfall
- Nutrient minerals are held in vegetation.
- Warmth and moisture cause rapid decay of organic matter, little humus is added to the soil
- High iron and aluminum content of soils.
- Once exposed to the sun, these lateritic soils soon bake into a bricklike material that cannot be cultivated.

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### Temperate Deciduous Forest



- occupies the eastern half of the United States and a large portion of Europe
- hardwood trees
- High amount of
- Worldwide, first to be converted for agricultural use

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### Taiga or Boreal Forest

*named after the biome in Russia*

- Dominated by Conifers
- Covers 11% of the Earth's surface
- It is dotted with lakes, bogs, and marshes.




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### Tundra

Arctic tundra- high latitudes  
Alpine tundra- high elevations

- Harsh winters, short summers
- Sphagnum moss, a wide variety of lichens
- Swarms of migrating birds, especially waterfowl, invade the tundra in the summer to raise their young
- Low primary productivity, low species diversity

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Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Arctic Tundra


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### Grasslands



- Soil has a
- high net productivity, rainfall in this biome never leaches soil minerals below the reach of the roots of crop plants.
- Except to the extent that minerals are lost when crops are removed, the minerals simply recycle from subsoil to topsoil and back to the subsoil. The self-restoring fertility of the soils of the plains states accounts for this region being the "breadbasket"

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### Tropical Savanna



- rolling tropical grassland scattered with shrubs and isolated trees, found between a tropical rainforest and desert biome
- Trees have long tap roots that can reach the deep water table, thick bark to resist annual fires, trunks that can store water, and leaves that drop off during the winter to conserve water

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 **Chaparral** 

- ✕ Mediterranean climate
- ✕ Thin not very fertile soil
- ✕ Frequent fires,

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 **Desert** 

- ✕ Annual rainfall is less than 10 in
- ✕ About 30% of the earth's land surface
- ✕ Soil is low in organic material and high in minerals
- ✕ Plants contain spines, thorns, or toxins to resist heavy grazing pressure

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