

Geography • Biomes: North America

Key Learning Question: What and where are the biomes of North America?



Crucial Knowledge

- North America is a large continent stretching from the Tropic of Cancer to the Arctic Circle. It includes Canada, the USA and Mexico and many other smaller countries.
- Biomes are areas of our planet with similar climates, landscapes, animals and plants.
- Types of biome include rainforests, deserts, savannah, taiga woodlands, grasslands and tundra
- The tundra biome has little rain or snow and temperatures are freezing.
- Half of Canada and most of Alaska are in the tundra.
- The taiga biome is mostly evergreen trees. It is the world's largest biome.
- Grasslands are vast, open spaces where grasses are the main plants, and can be temperate or tropical. Grasslands in North America and Africa share some features.
- Humans are damaging biomes across the world from a range of activities which are harmful to the environment



Key Vocabulary

- biomes: areas of our planet with similar climates, landscapes, animals and plants.
- Arctic Imaginary line marking an area close to the circle: North Pole.
- polar The area close to the north and south pole, zones: within the Arctic and Antarctic circles.
- temperate The area between the Polar and tropical zones: zones, with moderate temperatures.
- tropical The area closest to the equator, with very zone: warm temperatures.
- tundra: The coldest of all the biomes, with freezing temperatures.
- taiga: Sections of a country divided with borders.
- prairie: The name for the grassland biome in North America.

Big Ideas:

- Locations and Mapping
- The Human World
- The Physical World
- Human Impact
- Physical Processes



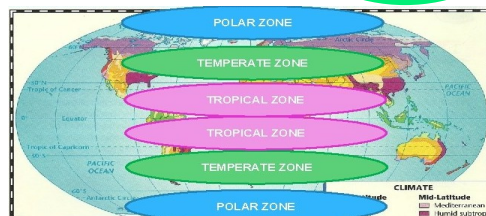
Location Maps



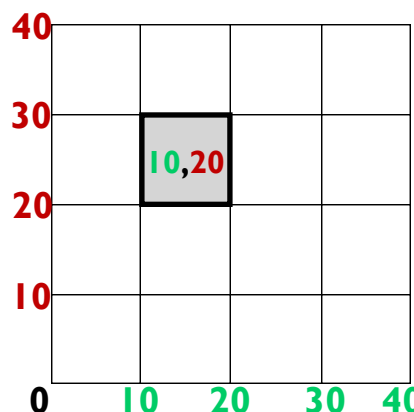
Countries of North America



Biomes in North America



Climate Zones



4 Figure Grid Reference:
The square's grid reference of 10,20.
The first two numbers are the horizontal value.
The second two numbers are the vertical value.

We Are Building Our Knowledge From

- Rivers : The Amazon (Y3)
- Climate: The Alps(Y4)

This will help when we learn about

- Volcanoes :The Galapagos (Y6)