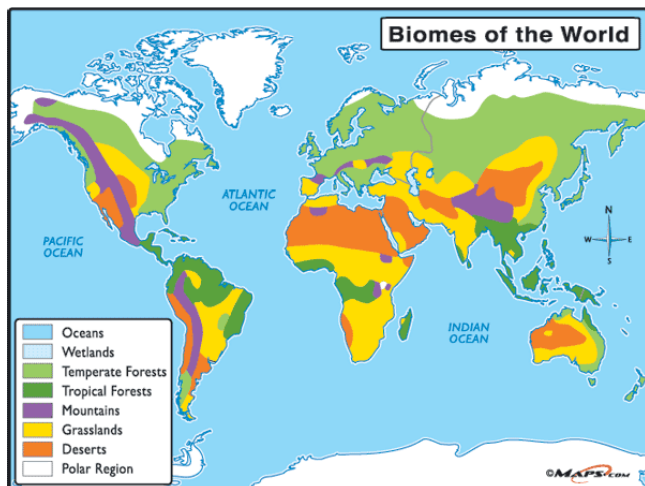


What should I already know?

- The equator is an imaginary line of latitude which runs through the centre of the earth.
- Climate is different to weather – it's a pattern of weather over a long period of time.
- Hot places are located around the equator and cold places are located around the poles.
- Animals adapt to their environment.



What will I find out by the end of the unit?

**Animals and plants best adapted to these biomes:**

**Desert** - Fennec Fox or Desert Hare, hyena, meerkat, cactus.  
**Tundra** – polar bears, arctic foxes, shrubs and grasses.  
**Taiga** - moose, black bears, great grey owls, wolverines, evergreen trees, firs and spruces.  
**Deciduous forest** - black bears, foxes, woodpeckers, owls. It has 4 distinct seasons so many plants can grow.  
**Rainforest** - sloths, monkeys, toucans, and parrots. It has 40,000 plant species the most common is the palm.  
**Grassland** - lions, cheetahs, zebras and bison, grasses, flowers and herbs.

- Over half of the Amazon rainforest is located in Brazil.
- It has four layers – **emergent layer, canopy, understory layer and forest floor.**
- Each of the layers is the habitat to various organisms.
- The Awa tribe are the indigenous people who continue to live in the Amazon Rainforest.
- The Rainforest contains many natural produce used throughout the world: rubber, medicines, coffee, fruit, nuts, tea, flavourings, palm oil.
- The Rainforest is threatened by deforestation through: logging, clearing for farms, houses, palm oil and fuel.

**Geography skills and fieldwork**

- Locate countries which contain certain biomes.
- Create a biome model.
- Find out how plants and animals adapt to their habitat.
- Compare rainfall in Blackburn to rainfall in the Rainforest.
- Find out if the Rainforest affects our weather in the UK.
- Research deforestation and its effect on the biome on the rest of the world.

**Vocabulary**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| equator             | imaginary line of latitude running through the centre of the earth.              |
| Northern hemisphere | north of the equator   |
| Southern hemisphere | south of the equator   |
| climate zone        | areas of the earth, demarcated by lines of latitude, divided up based on climate |
| adaptation          | where an organism becomes better suited to its habitat                           |
| desert              | hot and arid landscape with poor growing conditions                              |
| tundra              | extremely low temperatures and poor growing conditions                           |
| taiga               | coniferous forest (evergreen) with long cold winters                             |
| deciduous forest    | area with 4 distinct seasons so leaves fall                                      |
| rainforest          | area of dense forest that is wet and hot   |
| grassland           | area covered by grass but where larger plants can't grow                         |

