

What Lives in Your Ecosystem?

Name: _____ Date: _____

AKS: identify common patterns of interdependence among organisms (QCC, STAN)
(5SC_B1998-10) Indicator: (10a explain why some plants and animals thrive in a particular environment such as the desert or the rain forest)

Biomes

1. What is the main feature that makes the biomes(ecosystems) different?
Climate
2. Use the Summary Chart: Name two biomes that have similar temperatures but different amounts of moisture. **Rainforest/Savannah**

Deserts

1. What are the characteristics of deserts? **Hot in the daytime, cold(er) at night; 10 inches of rain or less per year**
2. What adaptations do desert plants have to survive in a desert climate?
Ability to collect and store water , Features that reduce water loss
3. Name three desert plants. **Answers vary**
4. What adaptations do desert animals have to survive in a desert climate?
Some animals never drink, but get their water from seeds (some can contain up to 50% water); Some animals adapt by spending most of the day underground and out of the hot sun;Some animals rarely spend any time above ground
5. Name three desert animals. **Answers Vary**

Grasslands

1. What factor is most responsible for making a Grassland? **Rainfall**
2. What types of grasslands are there in North America? **Tall grass, Mixed grass, short grass**
3. Name three grassland plants. **Answers vary**
4. Name three grassland animals. **Answers Vary**

Rainforests

1. What type of climate is found in a tropical rainforest? **It must:Lie between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn, Receive rainfall regularly throughout the year (80- 400 inches a year), Remain**

warm and frost free all year long (mean temperatures are between 70° and 85°F) with very little daily fluctuation.

2. How is a temperate rainforest different from a tropical one? **Temperate temperature varies, less rainfall**
3. Name three rainforest animals. **Answers vary**
4. How have some plants adapted to survival in the rainforest? **Shed water efficiently, stilt roots, large leaves to capture sunlight**
5. Name three rainforest plants. **Answers vary**

Tundra

1. Name three features that define the tundra biome. (**Tundra Facts lists many, including, immense size - 1/5 of Earth, less than 10 inches of rain/year, water unavailable most of the year, permafrost layer**)
2. Name three plant types that can be found in the tundra. **Small shrubs, lichen, dark leaves (to absorb sunlight), cushion plants, seeds**
3. What do some animals do to adapt to life in the tundra? **Some have grown thick fur which turns white in the winter. Others find a place to hibernate during the winter months.**
4. Name three animals that are found in the tundra biome. **Answers Vary**

Wetlands

1. What are the three characteristics of a wetland? **Covered by water, has water loving plants, hydric soil**
2. What are the different types wetlands? **Emergent, Scrub, Forested, Aquatic**
3. Choose one type of wetland. What animals are found in this type of wetland? **Answers Vary**
4. What plants are found in the wetland type used for question 2? **Answers Vary**

Oceans

1. Click on Reef Life. Where do coral reefs come from? **Built over thousands of years by tiny calcium-producing organisms**
2. Name and describe three of the life forms found on a coral reef. **Answers vary**
3. Click back and look at some of the "Monsters of the Deep". How have some of these animals adapted to their environment? **"Some of the animals here**

have evolved the ability to create their own light with a technique known as bioluminescence. They use their lights to attract prey and ward off predators. There are also creatures here of gigantic proportions. There are also animals here that get all of their nutrients from chemicals in the ocean through a process known chemosynthesis"

4. Go to "Kelp Forests" to learn about some plant life in the ocean. Take the virtual tour, then find out about the sea life you can find there. Name and describe 3 examples. **Answers Vary**

Forests

1. What does deciduous mean? **The word "deciduous" means exactly what the leaves on these trees do change color in autumn, fall off in the winter, and grow back again in the spring**
2. How does losing leaves help forest trees survive? **During the winter months, little water is available to leaves of the plants. When the leaves fall off, the plant takes on a dormant quality and photosynthesis shuts down**
3. Name three of the types of trees found in deciduous forests. **Answers Vary**
4. Name three forest animals and the adaptations they have to survive the season changes in the forest biome. **Answers Vary**