



The Biomes Project: Student Handout

The Biomes Project

The Biomes Project is an opportunity for you to do your own research on a particular biome. Your teacher may allow you to pick a biome, or he or she may select one for you. You will work in teams to research critical issues of your biome from different points of view. After your research, you will create a project to teach your classmates about the critical issues surrounding your biome.

Some terms you should become familiar with before you start are:

- Climate
- Biome
- Biodiversity
- Ecology

Research

Each member of your group will research a particular area of your biome. Areas include: Animal, plant, physical landscape, and human influences. Use the materials included to research your biomes and as a group you will present your findings to the class. Your presentation format will depend on the time and resources available. Some examples of presentation formats include:

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Powerpoint presentation | Hyperstudio stack |
| Dioramas | Web site |
| Booklet | Posters |

Presentation Elements

Whichever presentation format you choose, you will need to include the following items. As a group, create the following:

- Title and authors (all group members)
- Table of contents or where all the relevant information can be found
- Introduction: overview of your biome
- A map of the world with your biome clearly identified with proper nouns (i.e. if you are in the desert group, the Sahara Desert should be listed) Include a definition of your biome. (What characteristics does your biome have?)
- Glossary of terms that pertain to your biome with definitions

Team Responsibilities

Each individual group member is responsible for one of the following:

Animal life

- Background information
- Examples with pictures/illustrations
- 2 questions that can be answered from your research

Plant life

- Background information
- Examples with pictures/illustrations
- 2 questions that can be answered from your research

Physical landscape/habitat (including weather)

- Background information
- Examples with pictures/illustrations
- 2 questions that can be answered from your research

Human influences

- Background information
- Examples with pictures/illustrations
- 2 questions that can be answered from your research

Begin your research at the TeachersFirst Biomes web site:

<http://www.teachersfirst.com/lessons/biomes/>