

Desert Biomes

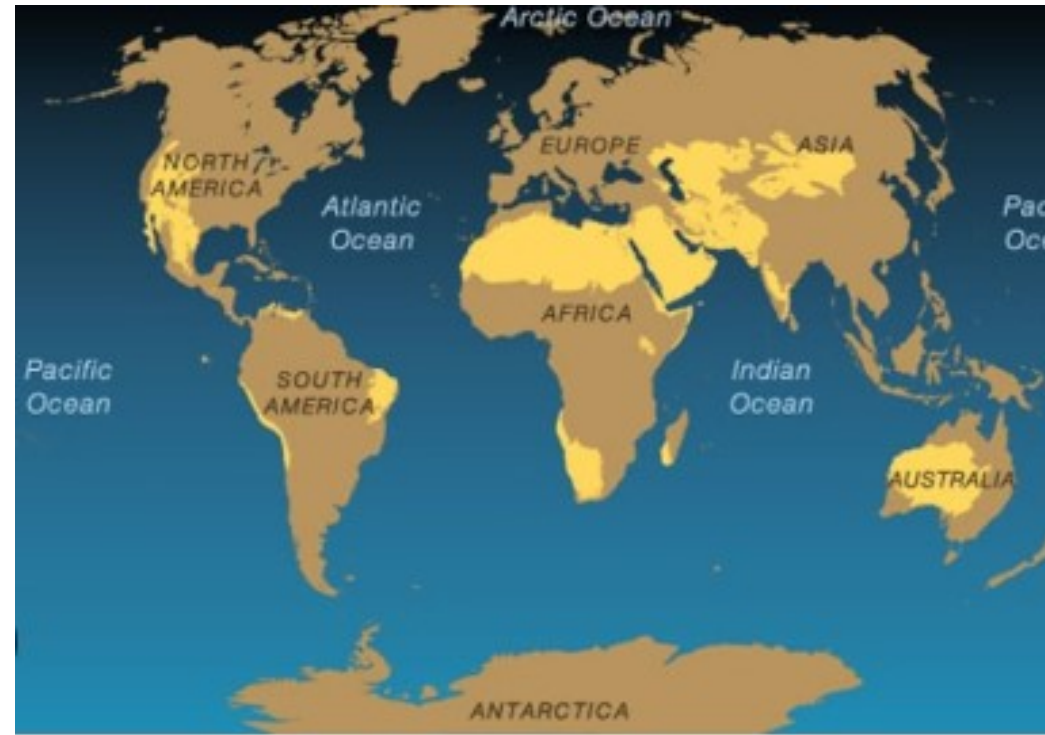
What our children should already know

Seasons (Y1). Lines of latitude, tropics and Equator (Y3 Timelines & World Lines). There are several biome types e.g. tundra, desert, tundra, tropical rainforest (Y4 rainforests). Arctic is in the Northern Hemisphere and Antarctic is in the Southern Hemisphere (Y2 Antarctic & Caribbean, Y4 polar regions). Climate is the weather over a long period of time (Y2 Caribbean & Antarctic)

Choices

- Would I like to live or holiday in the desert? Why?
- What are the threats to deserts?

Maps



Key Vocabulary

arid	having little or no rain
biome	area with a certain climate and certain types of living things
climate	The general weather over a long period of time
desert	an area where there is a shortage of rain
desertification	Expansion of a desert which as a result decreases vegetation
flora	The plant life on an area
fauna	The animal life of an area
infrastructure	Things in a place that help that place to make money
mining	The search for, and extraction of minerals from the earth
sand dune	tiny rock particles blown together to create a hill
tropics	regions of Earth that lie between tropic of Cancer (N) and Tropic of Capricorn
vegetation	The plants of an area

Learning Sequence

Lesson 1	Explore characteristics of a desert biome
Lesson 2	Identify physical features of a desert biome
Lesson 3	Explain how deserts are used by humans
Lesson 4	Describe threats deserts face
Lesson 5	Describe threats deserts face

Physical Features

- Sand dunes
- Mushroom rocks
- Mesa
- Rock arch
- Salt Flats

Human Features

- Las Vegas
- Death Valley
- Joshua Tree National Park
- Maritime
- Cattle grazing
- Mining
- Infrastructures

Desert Biomes

What is a sand dune?	What is a biome?	What is a desert?	Why do Flash Floods occur?
What are the threats to deserts?	What is flora and fauna?	Name 3 ways deserts are used by humans.	Name 2 animals that live in the desert.
Deserts are mainly located between 2 tropics. What are the 2 tropics called?	How are salt flats created?	What is a drought?	What is a Mesa?
How do Rock Arches occur?	Name 3 deserts.	How have camels adapted to the desert environment?	How do cacti survive in the desert?

One Point	Two Points	Three Points	Four Points
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Desert Biomes (Answers)

Tiny rock particles blown together to create a hill. (wind can change their shape)	An area of land with similar temperature, climate, plants and animals.	A place of little or no rainfall	Rain falls onto dry, cracked ground which cannot absorb it.
Drought Flash floods Desertification HUmans	Plants and animals	Mining Tourism Farming	Camel Fennec Fox Scorpion/snake
Cancer and Capricorn	Salt water lakes evaporate in the heat, leaving behind salt flats.	Prolonged period of time with no rain.	Mountains with flat tops that have been shaped by erosion
Holes are worn away in huge rocks by the weather.	Great Victoria, Arctic Polar, Patagonian, Arabian, Gobi, Sahara, Kalahari, Syrian, Great Basin, Antartic Polar.	Long eye lashes, split hooves and fat stores in their humps.	Expansion of a desert which as a result, decreases vegetation, eventually making it disappear.

One Point	Two Points	Three Points	Four Points
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