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BIOMES

Biome Triangle Match-up Pre-visit Activity

MN Graduation Standards supported:

Grades 9-12 Strand IV F
The student will describe and explain the cycling of matter and flow of energy through an ecosystem's living and nonliving components

Vocabulary:

Biomes
Biotic components
Abiotic components

Links:

Minnesota Zoo website
www.mnzoo.org

Introduction:

Biomes include the living components of an ecosystem such as animals, plants, decomposers (biotic) as well as the non-living (abiotic) components such as rivers, sand, land, rocks, weather extremes, altitude, etc. Climate and seasonal changes are result of location on the globe:

- latitude, elevation, sun's angle and global tilt
- ocean currents, wind patterns determine local climate

The Biome Triangle is useful for classifying living organisms based on their adaptations to varying conditions of temperature, moisture, and altitude. Students may use this to reinforce the relationship of climate and elevation to the types of food webs possible in a particular geographic area.

After instruction on how biological communities (biomes) are structured, students will explore zoo web site and become familiar with the animals present on the zoo trails. Students will use site information to match animals described to correct biome using the triangle chart.

Objectives:

At the end of this lesson, the students will:

1. Understand that biomes are composed of organisms adapted to differing physical conditions of contrasting temperatures and moisture, resulting from differing geographic regions.
2. Become familiar with major biomes.

Procedure:

1. Instruct on how biological communities(biomes) are structured.
2. Have students explore the zoo web site and become familiar with the animals present on the zoo trails.
3. Students should use the website information to match animals described to the correct biome using the triangle chart.