

Biome Project

Topic:

You and your group will be assigned a different biome to study and construct for a quarter project.

Goals:

You and your group must research your biome including but not limited to, the climate, average precipitation, types of vegetations (should be many different kinds), animal life (should be many), decomposers, temperature ranges, migratory animals, interactions among living and nonliving factors, elevation, and other relevant information.

Your group must then construct a 3-dimmensial model of your biome making it as realistic as possible. Your model needs to be colorful, creative, with careful attention to specific details. Your model should depict an exact replica of how the biome would appear in the real world.

Grading:

You will receive both an individual grade and a group grade. Your group grade will be based on how well your model was constructed, its accuracy, creative detail, and your presentation to the class in which you will teach the class everything they need to know on your biome.

Your individual grade will be based on participation in the construction of the biome, presentation to the class, and your overall knowledge of your biome.

Budget:

Each group will be issued a budget of \$15.00. **In order to receive money back a receipt must be submitted to me and a check will be issued to your parents.** You will not receive any money back without a receipt or for unnecessary purchases. (Amazon is a great place to get things cheaply and quick).

Biomes:

Deserts	Tundras	Coniferous Forest	Grassland/ Prairie
Coral Reef	Wetland	Deciduous Forest	Rain forest
Tropical Savanna	Freshwater	Temperate Woodland/Shrubland	
Boreal Forest (Taiga)			

3-Dimmensional Model

Each groups model must be 24" by 24" and be constructed on either a piece of 1/4 inch plywood (provided), piece of durable cardboard (must support your biomes mass), or a material of your choice. Depending on your biome, you should create a background scenery showing a typical day in your biome, or things hanging down (forest biome).

Possible Materials:

Cardboard	Popsicle sticks	Construction paper	Fiberglass resin (ponds, rivers, etc.)
Rocks	Spray paint	Model train supplies	Bondo
Leaves	Latex paint	Craft supplies	Sandpaper
Soil	Recycled materials	Styrofoam	Fish tank gravel
Sand	Cork	Small animals	Plastic plants for fish tanks
Pet store supplies	LED lights		

Points:

	Points
3-Dimmensional Model	55
Creativity & Effort	20
Teaching presentation (individual grade)	25
Paper	100
Total Points	200

Biome Paper

The English portion of your individual grade will be based on the following prompt:

“You are going on a trip! Based on the climate, elevation, temperature, and precipitation of the ecosystem you are about to explore, create a “packing list” describing what you will bring with you as you visit your assigned biome. List 10-15 items and justify each choice in complete sentences. Then, keep a five day “travelogue,” or journal, based on what you see while on your trip. Describe the animals you encounter as well as how they interact with one another, the types of vegetation you encounter, how the living conditions are for you, and other things you observe or experience (such as migratory animals.) End your travelogue by making a recommendation: Should humans decide to live in this biome? Why or why not? Explore whether or not we could survive as well as the effects that humans would have on the biome, its animals, and its vegetation. Each travelogue should be about 8 lines, and your final recommendation should be 10-15 lines. All information should be typed in **APA format** and **include citations**. Be sure to include a **References** page!”

Your paper will be worth a total of 100 points. Ten points for each journal entry, 25 points for your packing list, and 25 points for your recommendation.

Any type of plagiarism and you will receive an automatic zero.

Biome Paper Timeline:

Wednesday, December 17- Thursday, December 18= Begin research

Monday, January 5- Wednesday, January 7= In-class research and writing time

Thursday, January 9= Draft due for peer review

Friday, January 10= Editing day

Monday, January 12= Final Paper Due **including** Source cards, References page, etc.