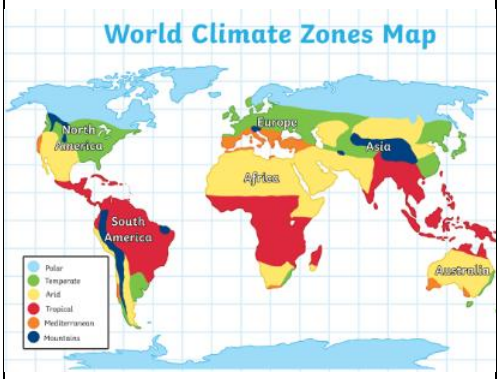
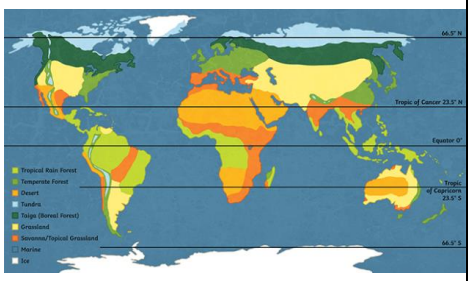
ST LAWRENCE C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL SUBJECT MANAGER OVERVIEW

SUBJECT: Geography UNIT: Climate zones and Biomes CONCEPT: Achievement YEAR:3

BIG QUESTION	What are the physical features of the Earth's biomes?	
END OF UNIT OUTCOME	Build a biome and create a quiz to go with the biome	
NC OBJECTIVES	• To describe and understand key aspects of: physical geography, including: climate zones and biomes	
WEEK	**KEY KNOWLEDGE**	**RESOURCES**
1	To know that Climate zones are areas with distinct climates. - These zones might correspond to weather patterns or communities of plants and animals - There are 6 major climate zones (polar, temperate, arid, tropical, Mediterranean and mountain) - Hotter climates are found nearer the equator - Polar climate zones are the coldest with temperatures generally below freezing. - Temperate climate zones have moderate temperatures and rainfall throughout the year. - Mediterranean climates have long, warm, dry summers and wet winters. - Arid climates have little rainfall and are very dry and hot. - Tropical Climates have high temperatures, rainfall and humidity all year. To know that biomes are areas of the planet with similar climates, landscapes, animals and plants - There are 5 major types of biomes (aquatic, grassland, forest, desert and tundra) - Some of these biomes can be further divided into more specific categories	  World climate zones map Biome map Blank world map Atlases Quiz (which climate zones does this country have?)
RICH TASKS	Annotate key question to identify prior knowledge. Discuss the different climate zones Children to have a blank world map and colour the different climates zones and annotate with features of the climate zones	

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	Give children a quiz about which country has which climate zone - Children have to use an atlas to find the country and then use their climate map to see which climate it has. Discuss what a biome is and look at the map where they are located Discuss the 5 different types ready to look at each one in detail.	
2	Grasslands - Have more rain than deserts but less than forests - Wide areas of land filled with low growing plants such as grasses and wildflowers - Divided up into temperate and tropical grasslands Temperate grasslands - Have seasons including hot summers and cold winters - Animals include prairie dogs, eagles, foxes, snakes and mice - Plants include buffalo grass, butterfly weed, sagebrush and needle grass Tropical grasslands known as savannah - Has two distinct seasons (rainy season in the summer and dry season in the winter) - It stays warm all year round as they are mostly located near the equator - Animals include Zebras, Giraffes, lions, elephants and gazelles - Plants include lemon grass, acacia tree and baobab tree. Forests - Three types of forest (rainforest, temperate forest and Taiga) Rainforests - Climate is typically warm and wet as they are found close to the equator - Average temperature is between 21°c and 32°c - Animals include monkeys, bids, jaguars, snakes, spiders, butterflies and deer - Plants include brazil but trees, orchids, cacao trees, ferns and moss Temperate	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_vAOarzqZhg – video explaining biomes class mind map of biomes circle templates images of grasslands and forest biomes

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	- Have four distinct seasons (winter, spring. Summer and Autumn) - Animals include red foxes, mountain lions, rabbits, timber wolves and hawks - Plants include deciduous trees e.g. red maple, cedar trees and a few evergreen trees Taiga - Cold and subarctic region - Long and severe winters last 6 months which can get as cold as -51°c - Average temperature is below freezing - Animals include moose, wolverines, bats, bears and squirrels - Plants include coniferous evergreen trees e.g. spruce and pine, ferns and mosses	
RICH TASKS	Watch the video sections about forests and grasslands Children to take notes about these biomes and discuss these as a class to add to our biomes mind map Using the knowledge learnt children to create a page for their circle book about each biome including facts and images	
3	Deserts - Driest places of Earth making it hard for things to grow - Some deserts are hot e.g. Sahara and some are cold e,g, Gobi - Animals include meerkats, camels, scorpions and arctic fox - Plants found in hot deserts rice grass, cacti and sagebrush Tundra - 20% of the Earth's land surface is covered by this biome - Coldest biome with average temperate -7°c - Harsh conditions make it hard for plants and animals to survive - Divided into Alpine (land high in the mountains) and Arctic (Arctic circle) - Animals include Polar bears, arctic fox, arctic hare and snowy owl - Plants include lichens and small shrubs	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_vAOarzqZhg – video explaining biomes class mind map of biomes circle templates images of deserts and Tundra biomes

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RICH TASKS	Watch the video sections about deserts and Tundra biomes Children to take notes about these biomes and discuss these as a class to add to our biomes mind map Using the knowledge learnt children to create a page for their circle book about each biome including facts and images	
4	Aquatic biomes - include both freshwater and marine biomes. Freshwater biomes - bodies of water surrounded by land—such as rivers, and lakes that have a salt content of less than one percent. - Lake animals include snails, worms, frogs, insects and fish - River animals include snails, crabs, fish, crocodiles and beavers - Lake plants include water lilies, duckweed and bladderwort - River plants include water stargrass, willow trees and river birch Marine biomes - cover close to three-quarters of Earth's surface. - include the ocean, coral reefs, and estuaries - animals include fish (e.g. sharks, seahorses, clown fish) mammals (e.g. blue whales, seals, dolphins and otters) and molluscs (e.g. octopus, oysters, slugs and snails) - plants include kelp, seaweed, sea grasses and mangroves)	class mind map of biomes circle templates images of aquatic biomes
RICH TASKS	Discuss this biome with children taking notes to add to our class biomes mind map Using the knowledge learnt children to create a page for their circle book about the biome including facts and images	
5	Revision of key knowledge	
END OF UNIT OUTCOME	In pairs children to build a given biome showing the climate, plants and animals that are associated with the biome. Children to then create a quiz to go with their biome and circle books to present to another class	

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