**General Characteristics of Biomes**

1. Deciduous Forest
	* Climate
		1. 4 well defined seasons (Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall)
		2. 76cm-150cm precipitation per year
			+ Precipitation is evenly distributed through the year (no season receives significantly more precipitation than another)
		3. Hot summers & cold winters
	* Plant adaptations
		1. Many may lose leaves in the winter
	* Animal adaptations
		1. Many may hibernate in winter
2. Chaparral
	* Climate
		1. Hot, dry summers & mild wet winters
		2. 50cm to 75 cm of precipitation per year
		3. Fires are common
	* Location
		1. Only found near coasts
		2. Would be a desert if it was not for the moisture from the oceans or the seas
	* Plant adaptations
		1. Drought tolerant
		2. Fire-resistant adaptations
			+ Ex: plant can re-sprout up from roots after being burned
3. Tropical Rainforest
	* Climate
		1. Consistent warm temperatures year round
		2. Heavy annual rainfall
			+ 200cm to 1,000cm of precipitation per year
	* Location
		1. Near the equator
			+ Between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn
	* Plants and Animals
		1. Greatest amount of biodiversity found on Earth
			+ Only covers 3% of the Earth’s surface but contains 50% of the Earth’s biodiversity
4. Desert
	* Climate
		1. Very little rain fall
			+ Approx. 25cm of precipitation per year
		2. Typically warm or hot temperature, but some deserts may be cold
	* Plant Adaptations
		1. Small skinny leaves
		2. Store water for long periods of time
	* Animal adaptations
		1. Nocturnal behavior
		2. Light colored
		3. Small bodies with long appendages
5. Taiga (a.k.a. Boreal Forest)
	* Climate
		1. Long cold winters and short warm summers
		2. 30cm to 84 cm of precipitation per year
	* Plant adaptations
		1. Taiga is dominated by coniferous, evergreen trees (pine trees)
	* Animals
		1. Many migrate
		2. Many hibernate
		3. Thick fur or feathers
6. Tundra
	* Climate
		1. Long cold winters
		2. 15cm to 25cm of precipitation per year
	* Soil
		1. Permafrost
			+ Permanent layer of frost found around 3 feet below the surface (this layer of the ground is frozen year round)
	* Plant adaptations
		1. Grow low to the ground
		2. Have shallow roots
	* Animal adaptations
		1. Compact bodies
		2. Thick fur or feathers
		3. Large fat deposits for insulation
7. Temperate grasslands
	* Climate
		1. 51 to 89 cm precipitation per yr
		2. Hot summers 100 degrees Fahrenheit; cold winters -40 degrees Fahrenheit
		3. Found in temperate zone
* Plant Adaptations
	+ 1. Fire resistant adaptations
			- Ex: plant can re-sprout up from roots after being burned
		2. Deep roots for absorbing more water
* Animal adaptations
	+ 1. Digestive systems and teeth made for grazing on grass
		2. Burrowing animals
1. Savanna/Tropical grasslands
	* Climate
		1. 50 to 127 cm precip per year
		2. Dry and rainy season
			+ Rains only six to eight months per year; rest is dry
* Location
	+ 1. Near the equator
			- Between the Tropic of Capricorn and the Tropic of Cancer
* Plant Adaptations
	+ 1. Drought Tolerant
		2. Defenses against herbivores
			- Thorns or chemical defenses
* Animal Adaptations
	+ 1. Reproduce during rainy season
		2. Migrate to find water