Biomes

What do you remember?

Tropical Rain Forest
Temperate Forest
Desert
Tundra
Taiga (Boreal forest)
Grassland
Savanna/Tropical Grassland
Freshwater
Marine
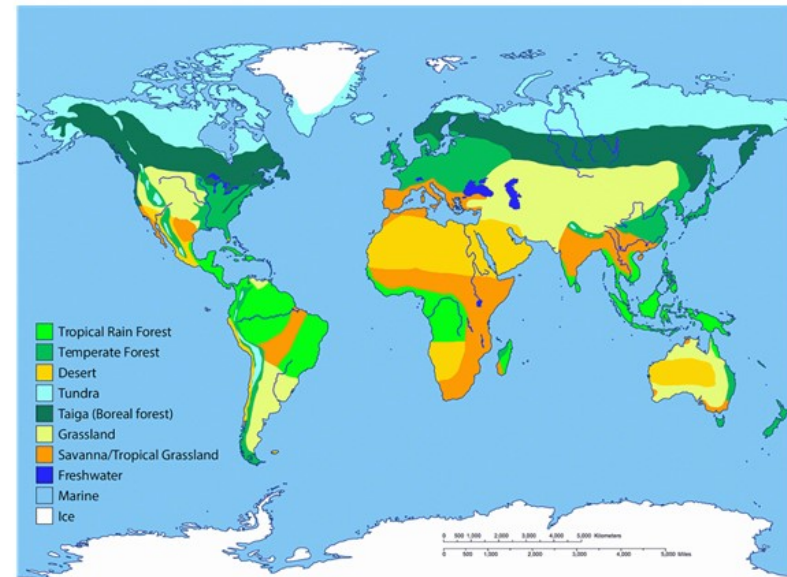Ice

- What is a biome?

- What are biomes based on?

- What are the two categories of biome?

- What is the difference between these two?

Which terrestrial biomes are these?

Tropical rainforest biome

Temperate deciduous forest biome

Desert biome

Tundra biome

Grassland biome

Taiga biome

Savannah biome

Of the biomes we have explored, (tundra, taiga, temperate deciduous forest, chaparral) which have you found the most interesting? Why?

Which biome would you most like to live in? Why?

Which biomes would you least like to live in? Why?

Which have the most/least diversity?

LO: To describe and explain a temperate grassland biome

- relate knowledge of the location of biomes to the location of climate zones.

- Make some generalisations (display an understanding of geographical location)

- Organise information about the worlds biomes (by using the knowledge webs)

- Describe how human processes affect biomes

- Point out the human processes that affect each biome

- Relate knowledge of biomes to your knowledge of human processes.

- Draw conclusions as to why humans behave as they in response to the conditions within the biome.
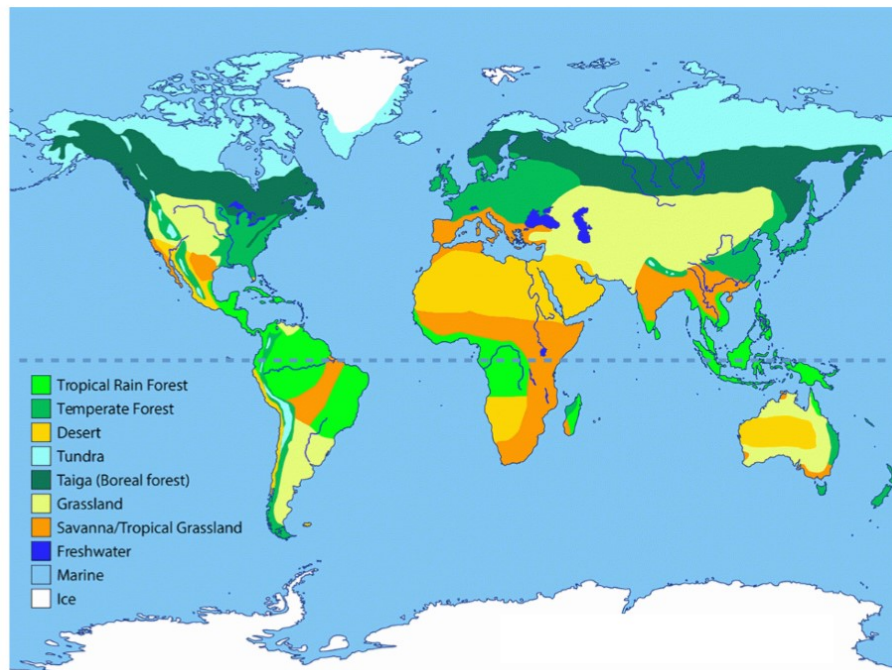
Today we will explore temperate grassland biomes.

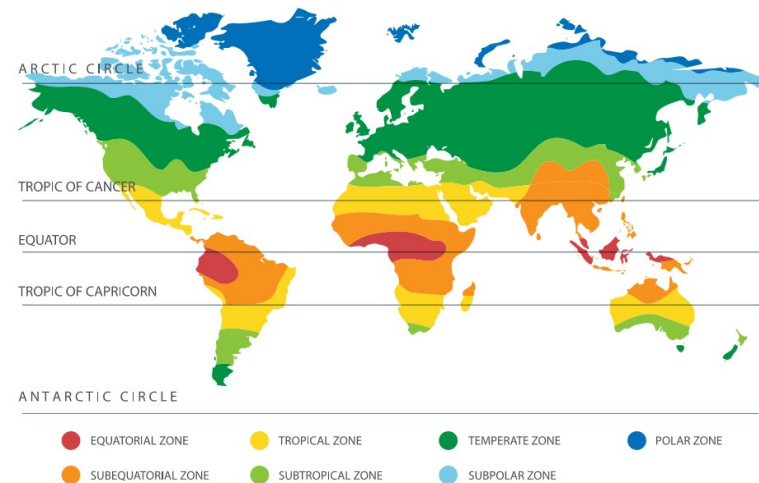What do we know about temperate grassland biomes?

How many temperate grasslands can you spot? What continents are these on? In which climate zones? What do you think the weather will be like there?

Location of Earth's climate zones

Location of Earth's biomes

Tropical Rain Forest
Temperate Forest
Desert
Tundra
Taiga (Boreal forest)
Grassland
Savanna/Tropical Grassland
Freshwater
Marine
Ice

ARCTIC CIRCLE
TROPIC OF CANCER
EQUATOR
TROPIC OF CAPRICORN
ANTARCTIC CIRCLE

EQUATORIAL ZONE   TROPICAL ZONE   TEMPERATE ZONE   POLAR ZONE
SUBEQUATORIAL ZONE   SUBTROPICAL ZONE   SUBPOLAR ZONE

expanses:

precipitation:

fertile:

expanses: large areas

precipitation: rain, snow, sleet or hail

fertile: supports growth well

Watch this video. Share what you have learnt with your partner.

Grasslands are wide expanses of land filled with low-growing plants such as grasses and wildflowers. The amount of precipitation is not enough to grow tall trees and produce a forest. Across the world, 25 per cent of land is in the grassland biome.

What types of plant are found is grasslands?

Why do tall trees not grow there?

What percentage of the world's land is in the grassland biome?

Location

Grasslands are found north of the Tropic of Cancer and south of the Tropic of Capricorn. They are known by different names in different parts of the world: steppes in **Asia**; prairies in **North America**; pampas, llanos and cerrados in **South America**; and rangelands in **Australia**.

Where are grasslands found?

What are some others names for them?

Physical features

The soil in the grasslands is deep and dark. It is also very fertile and so it is good farm land. In northern areas, the grass stays short because these areas have cold winters and dry, hot summers. In southern climates, the grass grows tall because these areas have warmer weather and periods of very wet weather.

Describe the soil in grasslands.

Why is it good farm land?

What is the difference between the grass in the northern and southern areas?

Why is there a difference?

Human processes

Most of the world's food is grown in areas that were once grasslands.

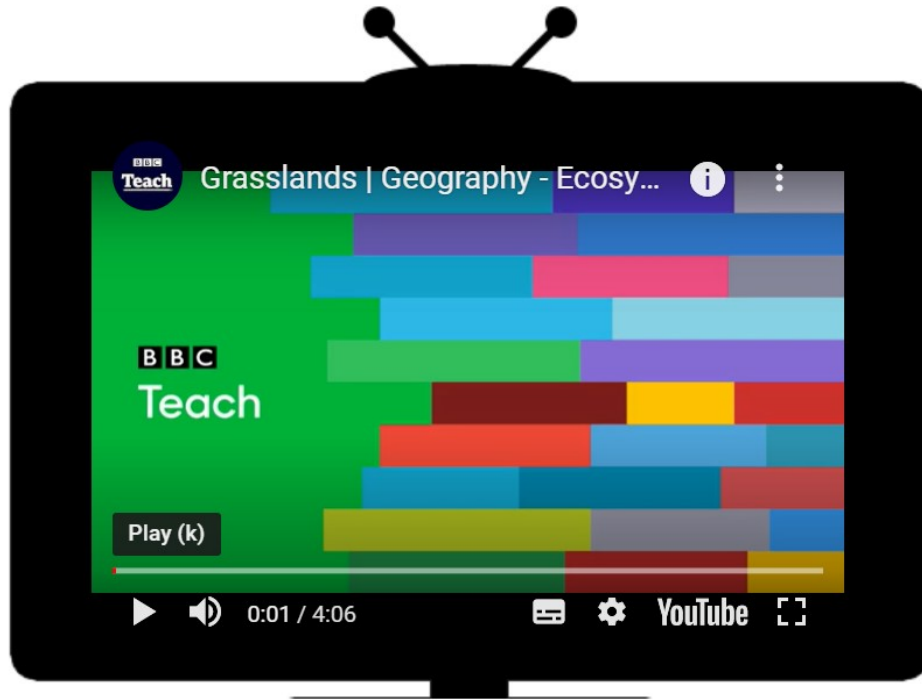Why do you think this is? Think back to physical features.

Diversity

There are many grasses and flowers in all areas of grassland. The **Asian steppes** are home to the the Saiga antelope, Przewalski's horse, the Bactrian camel, the Goitered gazelle and the Ustyard urial – a wild sheep. In the **North American prairies,** the animals are bison, antelope, birds, gophers, prairie dogs, coyotes and insects. In the **South American** pampas, the animals are foxes, skunks, small herds of guanaco, viscachas and bush dogs. In the **Australian rangelands** there are bison, elk, pronghorn and deer.

What are the two types of flora (vegetation) in the grasslands?

What is one animal from each of the four main grassland biomes?

What are some of the ways the vegetation and animals have adapted to survive?

What crop and wildstock are mentioned for farming?

Roll play with your partner a Route 66 trip. Whilst driving you see grasslands and stop at different places.

Discuss

- Where you are

- The temperature

- The physical features

- The human processes

- The diversity

You are on a two week drive along Route 66 in the USA. On the route you have so far passed through many areas of temperate grasslands.

Write an email to your friend telling them about your trip so far.

Hey Jess,

Hope you are well and having a good summer holiday. I'm having an amazing time in the USA driving along Route 66 with the family. Remember when we learn about biomes in school? Well, I have seen so many grassland biomes, that's the temperate ones by the way. I should say prairies as that's what they are called here in the USA (not pampas or rangelands) .

Include

- Where you are (and the biome you are passing through - what it is called where youy are but also in other areas)

- What the weather is like (how it would be different if you were in the southern area)

- What physical and human features you have seen (how this would be different if you were in the southern area). Explain why there are these human features.

- What diversity you have seen (can you explain how these plants and animals have adapted to the environment to?)