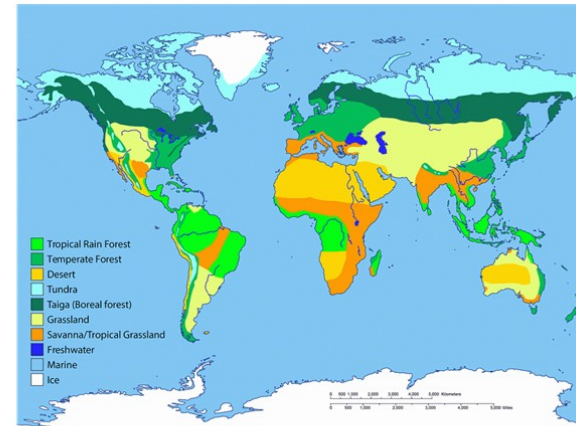


Biomes

What do you remember?



- 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



Desert biome



Taiga biome



Temperate
deciduous forest
biome



Tundra biome

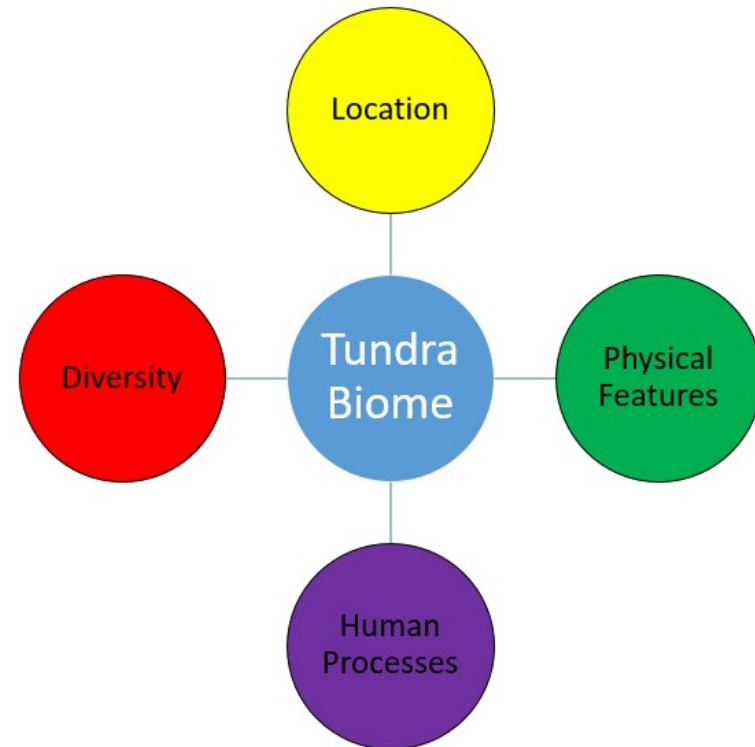


Grassland biome



Savannah biome

What do you remember about Tundra

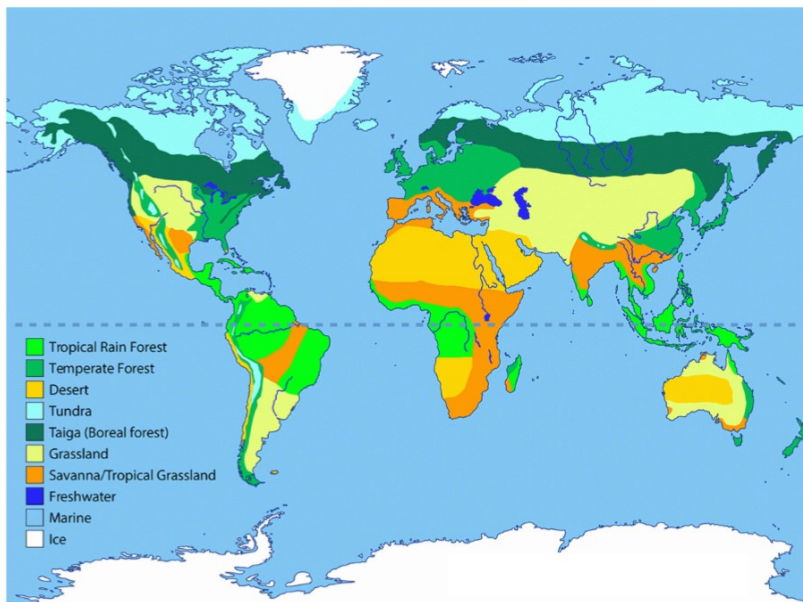


LO: To describe and explain a Taiga biome

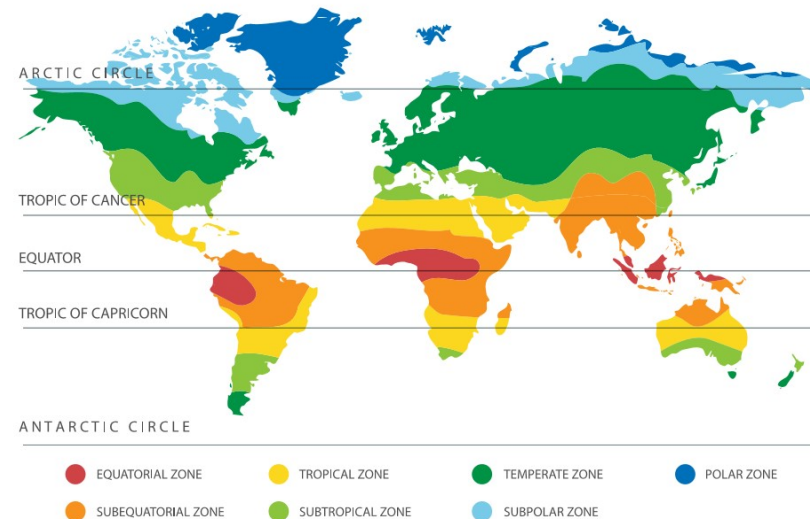
- relate knowledge of the location of biomes to the location of **climate zones**.
- Make some generalisations (display an understanding of geographical location)
- Organise information about the worlds biomes (by using the knowledge webs)
- Describe how human processes **affect** biomes
- Point out 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 do in response to the conditions within the biome.

Where are Taiga biomes located and in which climate zones? Why do you think this is?

Location of Earth's biomes



Location of Earth's climate zones



Key Vocabulary

terrestrial: on land

situated: positioned

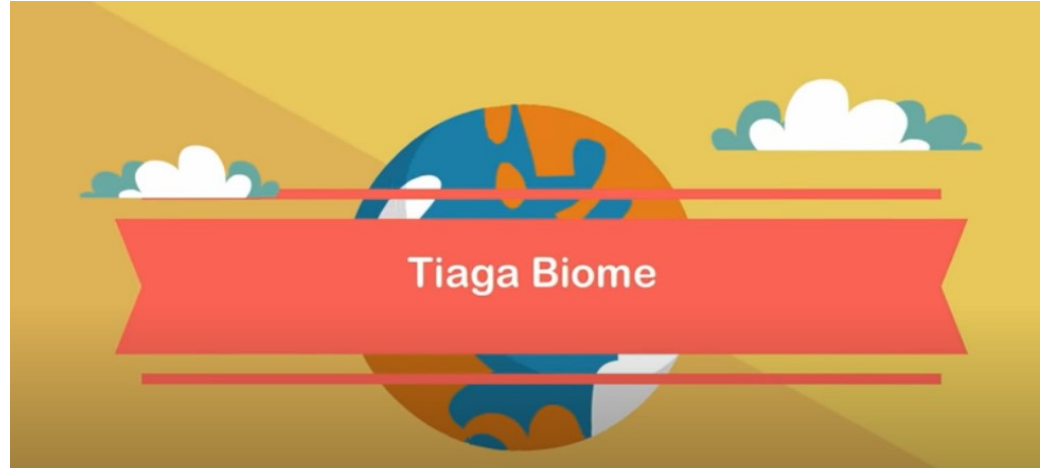
favourable: helpful

uninhabited: not lived in by people

nutrients: substances that help living things grow

migrate: travel to another area

hibernate: lie dormant (asleep) through winter



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

Taiga, also known as coniferous or boreal forest, is the largest terrestrial biome on Earth. The origin of the name 'taiga' is Russian and means land of the little sticks. The Taiga biome is popular with tourists for activities such as cycling, hiking and canoeing.

Use what you have seen and discussed, along with this information sheet, to make notes about the Taiga biome.

Taiga

The taiga is the world's biggest biome. It covers nearly one-fifth of the Earth's land surface and stretches across northern Canada and northern Eurasia in an almost unbroken belt for 7,000 miles. The main features of the taiga are its trees, including pine, spruce, hemlock, and fir. Although not as harsh as the tundra, all its plants and animals have evolved to survive the taiga's long, snowy winters.

Taiga trees have many adaptations for surviving the long, cold winters. Their needle-shaped leaves have waxy coatings to lock in moisture. Their needles don't all fall off in autumn, so the trees don't need to use energy to grow new leaves each spring and year. They are shaped like cones to allow snow to slip off easily, without it breaking branches. Their needle-shaped leaves have waxy coatings to lock in moisture.

Brown bears are top predators of the taiga.

- They hunt everything from deer to fish.
- They also like berries, nuts, roots, and other vegetation.
- During the summer, they eat massive amounts of food, sometimes as much as 100 kg per day.
- Their bodies convert much of this extra food and store it as fat.
- In autumn, brown bears dig dens and begin long winter hibernations, during which they live off the stored fat.

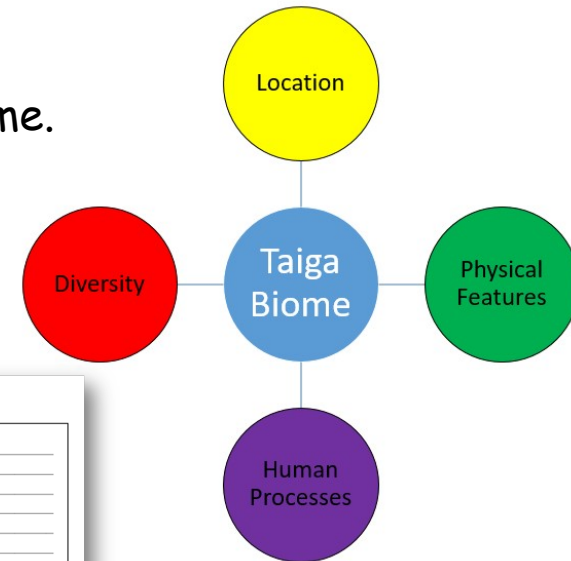
The vast forests of the taiga are being shrunk by massive logging operations.

- The wood is used to make paper and build houses.
- When trees are cut, the forest habitat is destroyed.
- This also helps to increase global warming, because forests absorb carbon dioxide.
- When too much carbon gas is released into the atmosphere, the climate warms up and that can have serious consequences for humans and ecosystems.

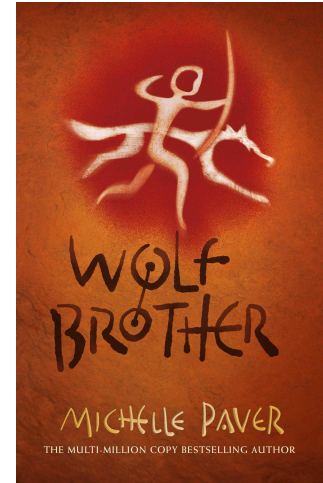
The vast forests of the taiga are being shrunk by massive logging operations. The wood is used to make paper and build houses. When trees are cut, the forest habitat is destroyed. This also helps to increase global warming, because forests absorb carbon dioxide. When too much carbon gas is released into the atmosphere, the climate warms up and that can have serious consequences for humans and ecosystems.

LO: To understand the features of a Taiga biome

<p>Location</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Physical Features</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>Human Processes</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>Diversity</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>



Torak, from Wolf Brother, evidently lived in a Taiga biome. Write a letter from Torak to his mother, who he has never met, describing life in the Taiga and how human affectivity is affecting it.



Dear Ma,

I know we have never met but you are always with me. I have always loved life in the forest, but things are changing because of man.