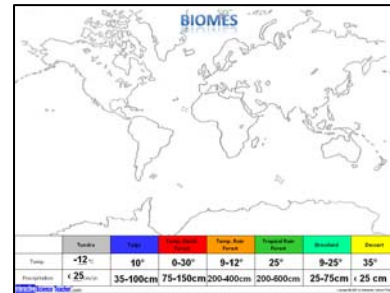


Biomes World Summary-Temp., Precip., And Location

A simple but powerful activity. After going through the temperature and precipitation table, have students color the map so it looks just like the one in their book. Not only will they know *what* the 7 biomes are, but they will know *where* they are. Not a bad way to begin the chapter.




Materials- map of the world, colored pencils

A fun and memorable way to start class is to get a student volunteer to come and sit at the front of the class. Fill a plastic sandwich bag halfway with water, seal it shut, and hold it over the student's head.

Ask the class if they can name all 7 biomes. After that, refer back to the Desert- ask how much rain it gets per year (very little). "I'm going to demonstrate a Desert to you by spearing this bag with this round pencil, with the bag over our volunteer's head!" Yes, you're serious. After assuring your volunteer that you read how this works this on the internet, so it must be true, jab the sharp pencil all the way through the bag. There will be a very slow drip, which is just like a Desert- occasional rain. We didn't say no rain, we said occasional.

Now, hold up a six-sided pencil and announce that this represents a Tropical Rain Forest. The internet also told you that when you spear a six-sided pencil through the baggie, it will not seal very well. And you want to now prove this is true to the class. So spear the bag and let it drip on the student's head while you compare how much rain the Tropical Rain Forest gets compared to a Desert. You might notice that the rate is about 10x faster than previous, which is about what a tropical area get compared to the Desert. Perfect! This works even better with bamboo skewers.

1. Give each student a copy of a world map. This is available as a Student Handout (see last page).



	Tundra	Taiga	Temp. Decid. Forest	Temp. Rain Forest	Tropical Rain Forest	Grassland	Desert
Temp.	___ °C						
Precipitation	___ cm/yr.						

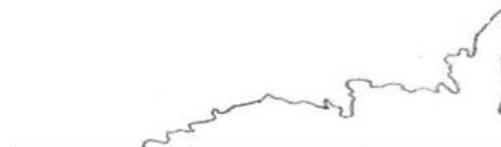
I purposely misspelled “Desert” as “Dessert”. I just like saying that “Dessert” is my favorite biome. And I really enjoy looking at all the “Dessert” all over the world.

2. For each Biome we will list average temperature and precipitation.

	Tundra	Taiga	Temp. Decid. Forest	Temp. Rain Forest	Tropical Rain Forest	Grassland	Desert
Temp.	___ °C						
Precipitation	___ cm/yr.						

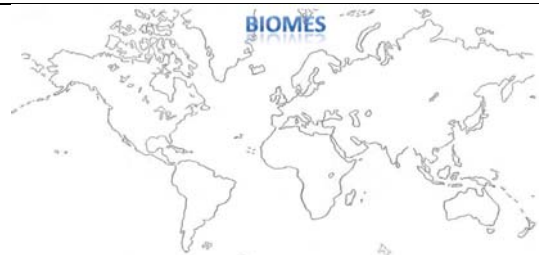
3. Have students dig out of their books the average temperature and precipitation.

After they tell you, reveal what you have on the PowerPoint (see last page).



	Tundra	Taiga
Temp.	-12 °C	
Precipitation	< 25 cm/yr.	

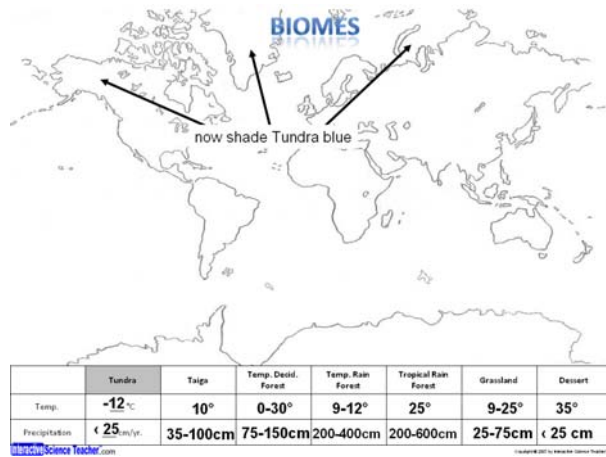
4. Go through the temperature and precipitation for the rest of the biomes, filling it in together as a class.



	Tundra	Taiga	Temp. Decid. Forest	Temp. Rain Forest	Tropical Rain Forest	Grassland	Desert
Temp.	-12 °C	10°	0-30°	9-12°	25°	9-25°	35°
Precipitation	< 25 cm/yr.	35-100cm	75-150cm	200-400cm	200-600cm	25-75cm	< 25 cm

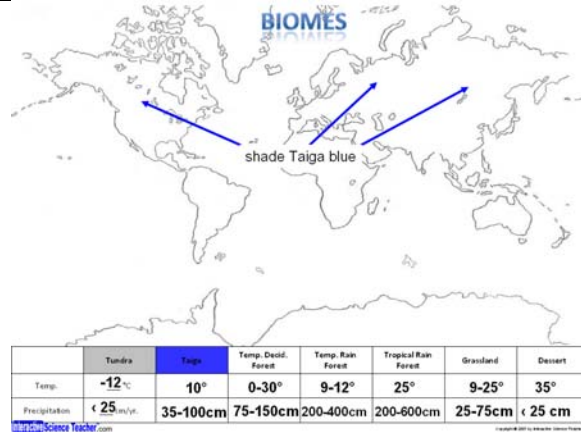
5. Have students take a colored pencil, shade in the “Tundra” box, and shade all Tundra on their map that same color.

If you have enough colored pencils then students can use the same colors the book uses.



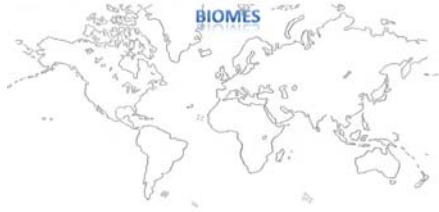
6. Do the same for the remaining biomes- shade each square it's own color and color that biome on the map.

Your "workers" will get done in about 25 minutes.



Come back and visit InteractiveScienceTeacher.com to upgrade this lesson with:

PowerPoint- lead your students through the lesson click-by-click



	Tundra	Taiga	Temp. Decid. Forest	Temp. Rain Forest	Tropical Rain Forest	Grassland	Desert
Temp	-12°	10°	0-30°	9-12°	25°	9-25°	35°
Precipitation	< 25 cm/yr	35-100cm	75-150cm	200-400cm	200-600cm	25-75cm	< 25 cm

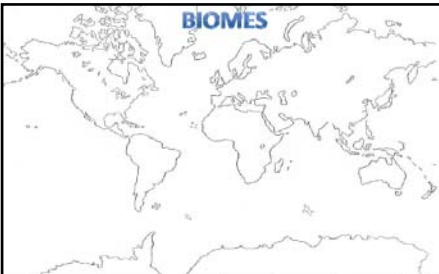


	Tundra	Taiga	Temp. Decid. Forest	Temp. Rain Forest	Tropical Rain Forest	Grassland	Desert
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Student Handout



	Tundra	Taiga	Temp. Decid. Forest	Temp. Rain Forest	Tropical Rain Forest	Grassland	Desert
Temp°C						
Precipitationmm/yr						