

Geography

Extreme Environments

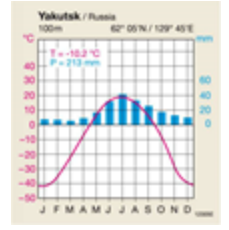


Biome	A large area of similar flora (plant) and fauna (animal) life
Latitude	Imaginary horizontal lines measured in degrees north and south of the equator
Tundra	A biome located above 70 degrees north of the equator with no tree growth and an extreme cold climate
Adaptation	The process where an animal becomes better at living in a certain environment.
High Air Pressure	An area where air is descending towards the ground. When this happens, there are no clouds or rain.
Precipitation	Rainfall, snow, sleet, hail
Desert	An area characterised by very low precipitation
Low Air Pressure	An area where air is ascending towards the sky. When this happens, there can be lots of clouds and rain
Desertification	Fertile (land that can produce crops) land is made infertile because of humans
Tropical Rainforest	An area characterised by consistently high rain and temperature. Very high biodiversity.
Biodiversity	The amount of life that exists in a certain area. The higher the more life exists somewhere.
Ecosystem	An area of interacting living and non living components (for example, fish, water and sunlight)
Fragile	Easily broken or damaged
Natural Resources	Naturally occurring substances or wildlife that can be used by humans
Eco tourism	Visiting an area without damaging it



The Extreme North

Located above 70 degrees North, the Tundra is one of the most extreme environments on earth. The climate is extremely cold most of the year due to its location in the far north. Animals here have adapted to survive in extreme cold and humans struggle to survive here.



Climate Change

Climate change affects the extreme environments first. In this case permafrost is being melted due to rising temperatures. This threatens all life that rely on the ice to survive, such as Polar Bears.



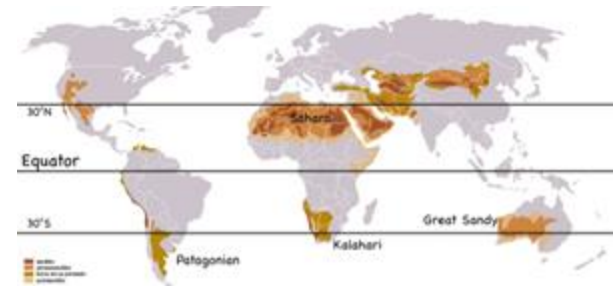
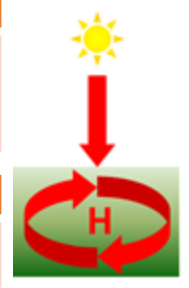
Arctic Circle 70N

Deserts

Around the Tropic of Cancer and Capricorn (30N and 30S) is extremely dry weather caused by high pressure systems. Just like other extreme environments, animal life here has adapted to survive in these barren conditions.

Humans in the Desert

Humans that live in Deserts can cause desertification. This is where land becomes infertile and is common in dry places.



Animals in the Desert

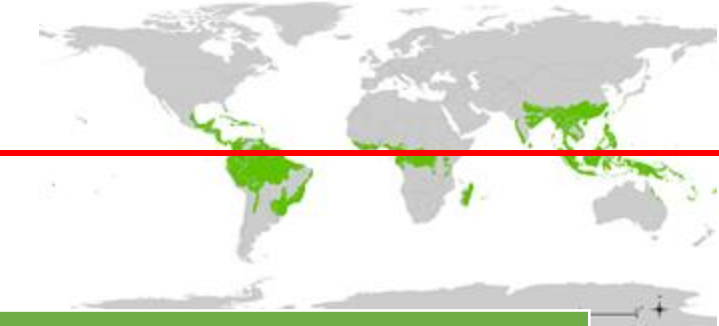
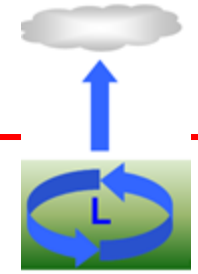
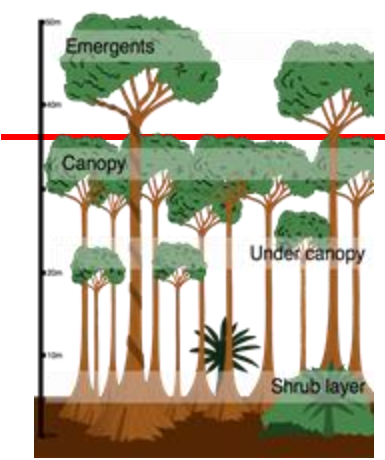
Animal and plant adaptations help species survive in dry climates.



Tropic of Cancer 30N

Tropical Rainforests - Climate Change

Trees produce Oxygen and store Co2. Without the rainforests, we would most likely not be able to survive in our atmosphere.



Tropical Rainforests - Location and Structure

The Tropical Rainforests are located along and either side of the equator. Here, there is low pressure and lots of rainfall all year round. The Tropical Rainforests have a clear structure. 4 layers divide the dense ecosystem.



Tropical Rainforests - Wildlife

Tropical Rainforests are extremely wet and hot. Because of this they are the most biodiverse places in the world. Scientists think there are 50 million different species living in rainforests.



Equator 0

Tropical Rainforests - Deforestation



Tropical Rainforests are very valuable to countries that have them, like Brazil. Timber is needed all over the world and countries like Brazil make Billions every year by chopping down trees and selling their wood. This has a devastating impact on wildlife with many species going extinct every year.



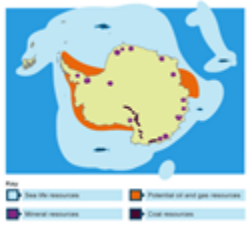
The Extreme South - Antarctica

Unlike the other extreme environments, no one owns Antarctica and it is mostly untouched by human life. This makes it extremely fragile to humans.



Antarctica Wildlife

Antarctica holds little life because it is so cold and isolated. Common wildlife include Penguins.



Antarctica Resources

Antarctica is rich in resources and scientists are worried that countries will try to mine minerals, leading to pollution and damage to the biome.

Antarctic Circle 70S