
Counting
Earth's Biomes
TIME FOR KIDS
Jennifer Kroll

Table of Contents

A World of Biomes 4

Number 5: Tundras 6

Number 4: Grasslands 10

Number 3: Deserts 14

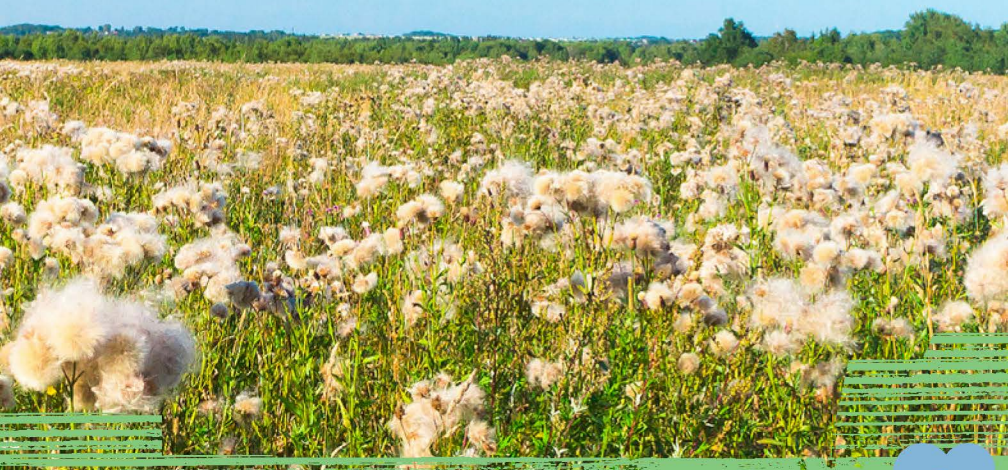
Number 2: Forests 18

Number 1: Oceans 22

At Home in a Biome 26

Glossary 28

For teachers' inspection ONLY



For teachers' inspection ONLY

A World of Biomes

A cactus wren nests in a desert cactus. A zebra **grazes** on a grassy plain. A cougar crouches between thick trees in a forest.

Deserts, grasslands, and forests are all biomes.

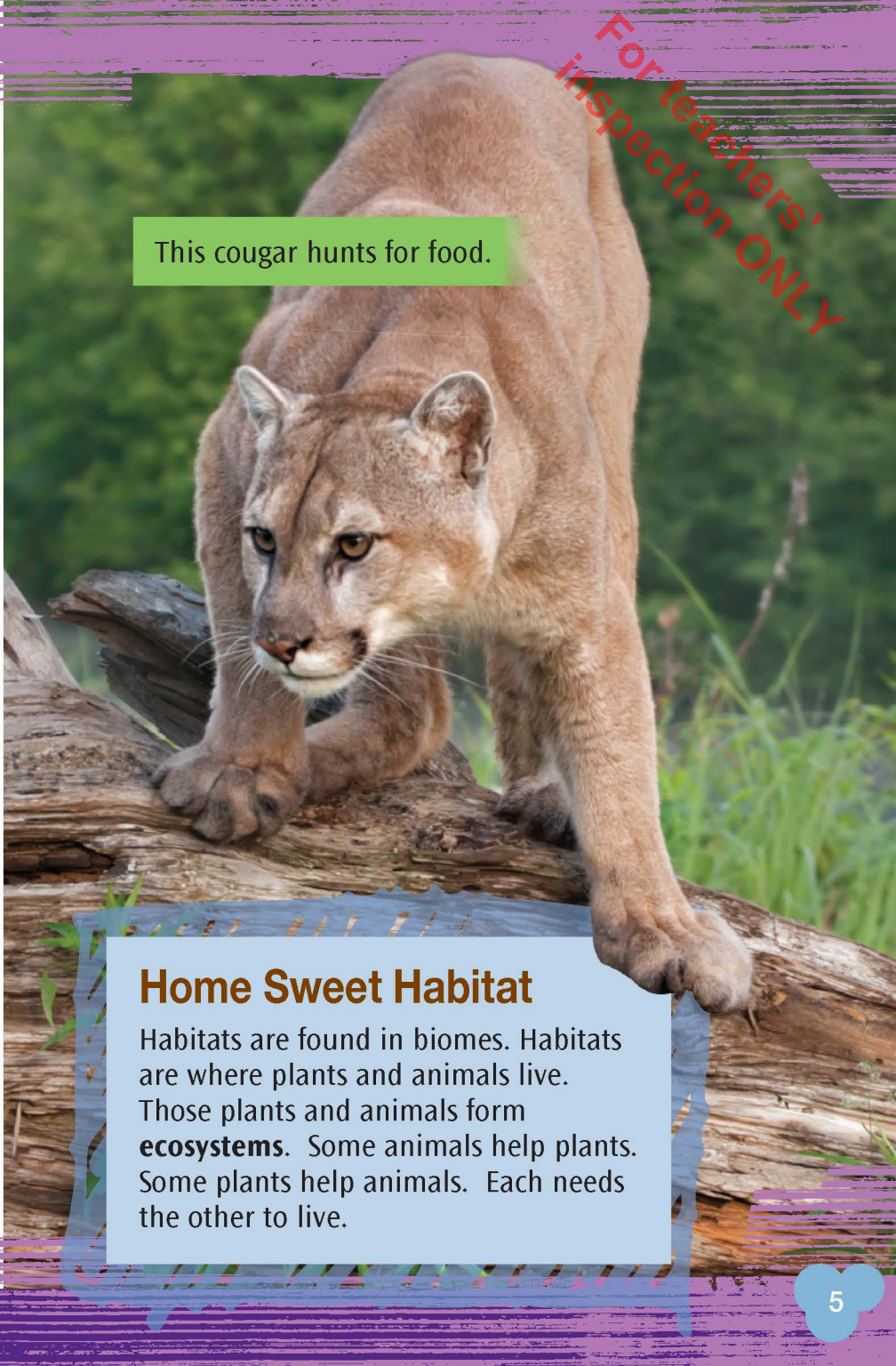
What Is a Biome?

A biome is a type of area. It has a certain **climate** and look. Earth has land biomes and water biomes. Read along as we count down the five main biomes on Earth.



This cactus wren builds a nest.

For teachers' inspection ONLY



This cougar hunts for food.

Home Sweet Habitat

Habitats are found in biomes. Habitats are where plants and animals live. Those plants and animals form **ecosystems**. Some animals help plants. Some plants help animals. Each needs the other to live.

For teachers' inspection ONLY

Number 5: Tundras

Biome number five is tundra. Brr! Tundra is a cold climate land biome.

Where on Earth?

Tundras are found near Earth's poles. Parts of Alaska are tundras. Most of Greenland is, too. The tops of some tall mountains are also tundras. Areas of tundra have long winters and cool, short summers.

Tundra Temps

Can you read these thermometers from Greenland? The left one shows how warm it is in summer. The right one shows how cold it is in winter.



For teachers' inspection ONLY



This reindeer looks for grass and mushrooms to eat in tundra.

For teachers' inspection ONLY

Tundra Home

It is hard for trees to grow in tundras, but it is still home to many plants and animals. These **species** have **adapted** to the cold.

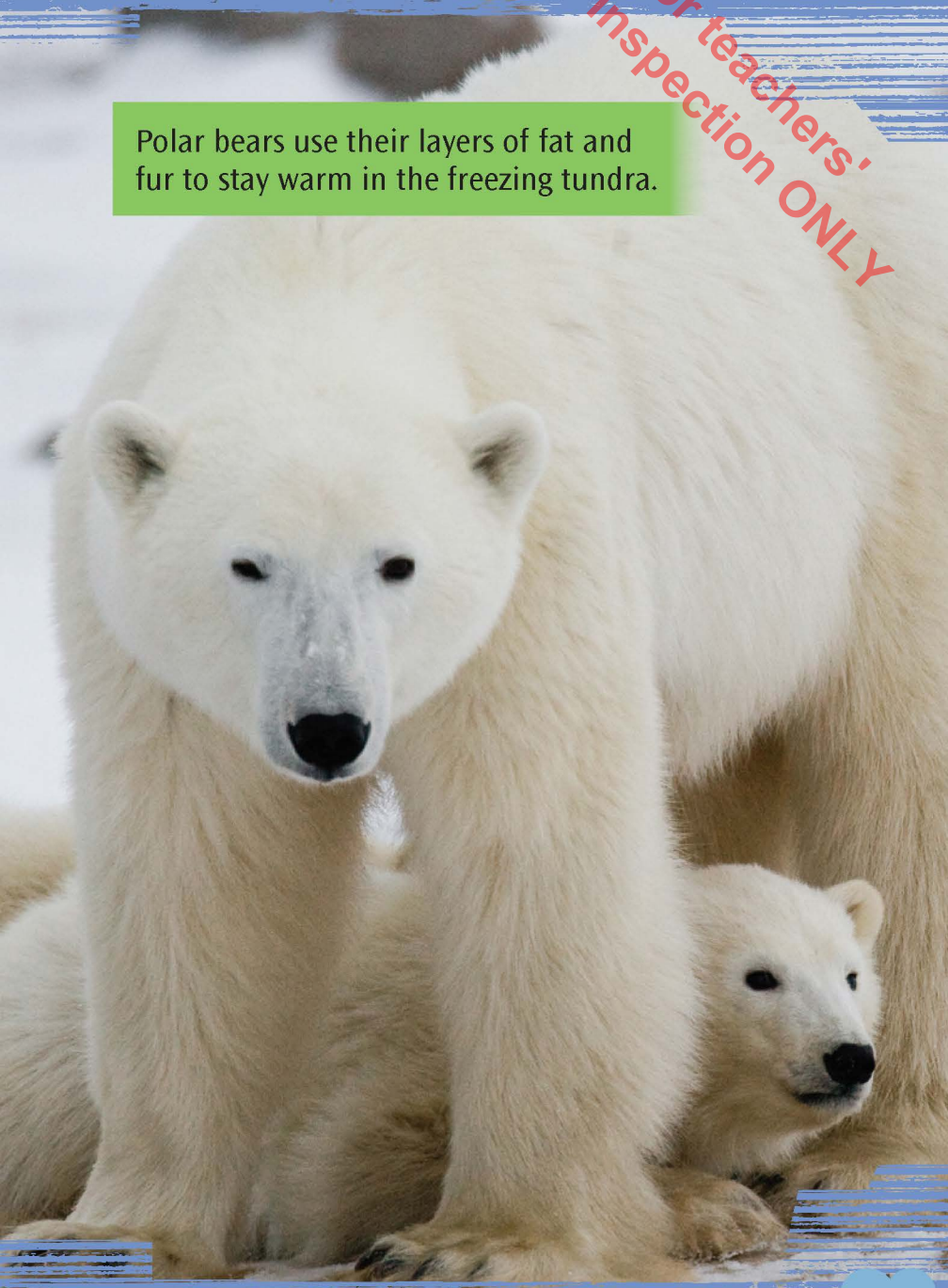
Wolves roam in some parts of tundra. Foxes and polar bears live there, too. Many birds nest there during the summer.

Freezing Frogs

Wood frogs live in tundras. In winter, the frogs freeze. Their hearts stop. Their blood does not flow. In the spring, they thaw out and hop away!



For teachers' inspection ONLY



Polar bears use their layers of fat and fur to stay warm in the freezing tundra.