

General Science: Ecology Review

Match each biome to its description:

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|-------------------------|---|
| 1. ___ Rain Forest | A) Short bunchgrasses and low rainfall |
| 2. ___ Deciduous Forest | B) Rolling hills with sod forming grasses |
| 3. ___ Steppe | C) Temperate area where trees drop their leaves |
| 4. ___ Desert | D) Wet region with a dense canopy |
| 5. ___ Tundra | E) Cold dry area with a short growing season |
| 6. ___ Prairie | F) Diverse with little to no precipitation |

Answer each question as completely as possible.

7. What two factors make organic matter in the rain forest decay so quickly?
_____ and _____
8. Why do trees in the rain forest have shallow roots? _____

9. The surface layer of tundra which melts and refreezes every year is called the

10. Plants on the tundra tend to be short and shrubby because _____

11. Describe one way in which fire is beneficial to grasslands. _____

12. Droughts were common in prairie regions and grazers did little damage. Why then, did a relatively mild drought lead to the Dust Bowl? _____

13. What is Humus? _____

14. Why do deciduous trees make the best firewood and building material? _____

15. What are the two types of adaptations used by animals in extreme environments?
_____ and _____

16. What key feature defines a desert? _____

17. Describe two adaptations used by desert animals. _____

18. Why might desert plants grow very deep roots? _____

19. Based on the second law of thermodynamics, if plants produce 1,000 units of energy,
how many units will be transferred to the second level consumer? _____