

The five climate types are polar, cold, temperate, dry, and tropical.

Climate - the average weather conditions over a long period of time


## Learn More

### Biomes in North America

The word *biome* describes specific areas on Earth that have similar climates, plants, and animals.

#### Tundra

In America, the only tundra biome is in Alaska. It is very cold there. Less than 25cm of rain and snow fall in the Alaskan tundra. The small amount of water in the tundra is permanently frozen in the soil. This layer of frozen soil is called *permafrost*.



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Climate	Biome	Description
Polar	Tundra	Alaska, Canada, Iceland, Greenland, extremely cold, little to no rain or snow (less than 25 cm), soil is permanently frozen, no trees only small plants and mosses
Tropical	Rainforest	Hawaii, Mexico, Central America, warm all year 70-90 degrees Fahrenheit, lots of rain (200 cm), tall broadleaf trees, anything that you think of as jungle plants and animals.
Dry and Temperate	Grasslands	Midwestern USA, Western Canada, Mexico, some are wet and some are dry (25 cm-75 cm), grasses can be 200 cm tall, few trees
Temperate	Deciduous Broadleaf forests	Northeastern USA, warm summers and cold winters, lots of rain (75 cm - 150 cm), trees that have leaves that drop
Cold	Coniferous Boreal forests	Higher elevations (mountains), Alaska, Canada, and lower cooler areas like Upper Michigan, more rain than polar areas but less than temperate ones, evergreen trees like pines, firs, and spruce
Dry	Desert	Southwestern USA, Mexico, hot, dry (less than 25 cm), plants and animals that can survive on little water, cacti, yucca, reptiles

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2. How can there be different climates within the same climate zone?

**Climate zones that cover large areas will be colder and drier at higher latitudes, warmer and more wet at lower latitudes. If there are mountains in a climate zone the higher parts of the mountain will have colder climates.**

3. Students answers will vary

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