

Canadian Geography 2202

Unit 1 – Lesson 9

Canada's Natural Vegetation Systems

Biomes: Ecozones

- A **biome** is a large region on the Earth, such as a rainforest or desert, which is named for the distinct characteristics of the plants that live within it. The plants that grow in each biome are the product of the landforms and climate of the region with which they interact.
- Location pattern of biomes around the globe is influenced by climate.
- The **boreal**, which means northern, forest is the largest biome and natural ecosystem in the world. Needle-leaved **coniferous** trees like pine, spruce, fir, and tamarack, as well as **deciduous** trees like birch and poplar, are characteristic of boreal forest vegetation, as are animals like the wolf, moose, and black bear.
- Natural vegetation refers to plants that are native to an area rather than those that have been planted or grown by people. The natural vegetation of a region is affected by several factors: temperature, precipitation, the steepness of the slopes, the elevation of the land, and local soil conditions.

RAINFORESTS: (In Canada?!?)

- Canada's rainforests are called **temperate rainforests**, which means that they are located far from the equator, away from all the heat generated by the Sun's direct rays. The word **temperate** refers to the parts of the world that experience four seasons.