

Read about the **TUNDRA** and the **TAIGA.**

TUNDRA

Tundra lands are one of Earth's coldest and harshest biomes. Trees don't grow in the Tundra ecosystems. These regions are found in the Arctic and on the tops of mountains, where the climate is cold and windy. Tundra lands are covered with snow for much of the year.



Plants survive in the mountain zones by growing between rocks because it is warmer and they are sheltered from the wind. Only few animals survive here.

The average temperature is between -34°C to -6°C. The summer season is just 50 to 60 days, when the sun shines up to 24 hours a day.
The Arctic tundra is changing dramatically due to global warming.

TAIGA



The taiga is a forest in the south of the Arctic Circle. Alaska, Canada, Scandinavia, and Siberia have taigas.

The soil beneath the taiga often contains permafrost—a layer of permanently frozen soil- or rock. Taigas are thick forests of conifers that have adapted to survive the long, cold winters and short summers of the taiga. Many kinds of animals live in the taiga. All animals have to be well-adapted to the cold. Few large carnivorous animals live in the taiga. The largest cat in the world, the 300-kilogram Siberian tiger, is a native taiga species. Siberian tigers live in a small part of eastern Siberia.

Taiga ecosystems are threatened by direct human activity and climate change. The trees of the taiga are cut down for furniture, paper, cardboard, and other supplies. Warming temperature also changes animal habitats. Animals such as the Siberian tiger are not adapted to warm weather.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Complete the sentences comparing the two biomes using the COMPARATIVE FORM of the following adjectives. There are extra words.

cold – few - heavy - large – less - long - more – short - small – thick - warm

1. The tundra is _____ than the taiga.
2. There are _____ trees in the taiga than in the tundra.
3. _____ animals survive in the tundra than in the taiga.
4. Plants in the tundra only survive in rock depressions because the weather is _____.
5. Summers are _____ in the tundra than in the taiga.
6. Summer days are _____ in the tundra than in the taiga.
7. The Siberian tiger is _____ than the Bengal Tiger because they are _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS