BIG QUESTION 9

Why are biomes important?

Name two animals and their natural homes on Earth.

What kinds of plants and animals live in your country?

Do you have areas in your country where nature is protected? Where are they?

UNIT 17

Get Ready

Words

A Look and write.

tropical rainforest tundra cactus desert
freshwater sloth temperate forest grassland

1 

2 

3 

4 

5 

6 

7 

8 

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B Circle the correct words.

1 The **tundra** / **grassland** biome is always frozen.

2 A **sloth** / **cactus** lives easily without much water.

3 The **temperate forest** / **taiga** biome has evergreen trees.

4 A **desert** / **tropical rainforest** is the driest biome on Earth.

5 There may be new medicines to be discovered in a **tropical rainforest** / **sloth**.

6 You might find a zebra or a rhinoceros in the **grassland** / **temperate forest**.



C Complete the sentences. Use the word pairs in the box.

desert–cactuses	freshwater–biomes	taiga–temperate forest
tundra–equator	tropical rainforest–sloth	

1 If you hike through a _____, you may see a _____ hanging quietly from a tree branch.

2 Both the ocean and _____ are water _____, but the ocean is much larger.

3 A dry _____ may have _____ that are up to twenty meters tall.

4 The cold _____ is far from the _____, which is around the middle of Earth.

5 Tree-loving squirrels can be found in both the _____ and the _____.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Read

A Read. Why is it important to protect biomes?

B Read again. As you read, try to classify and categorize the information into groups.

Our Disappearing Biomes

Biomes are natural communities of plants and animals that live together in different places on Earth. People have used these biomes for food, water, and shelter for a very long time. However, some parts of biomes are beginning to disappear. People are using too many of the things biomes provide.



Tropical rainforests cover many areas near the earth's **equator**. They give Earth oxygen and help take away carbon dioxide. Half of all the plant and animal groups in the world live in tropical rainforests. The plants in this biome may give us new medicines, so scientists often travel to tropical rainforests to study these plants. However, many people have cut down the trees. They use the rainforest for farmland. Sadly, half of the world's rainforests are now gone, and more disappear every day.

The **freshwater** biome is a biome that all living things need. It gives people water to drink and wash with. Many animals also drink this water or live in it. However, people are using more and more freshwater in cities and on farms. Many rivers and lakes have less water now.

Think In what ways do rainforests and freshwater help people?

Grasslands often have flowers, which are good for bees. These bees help plants to make new plants. Grassland plants also have deep roots. This keeps the soil strong. However, people are turning many grasslands into farmland. Some of the farmland soil blows away. Some of it washes into rivers.

Think Which biome contains bees? Which contains drinking water?

Oceans, **temperate forests**, the **taiga**, and the **tundra** are also in trouble. When people take too many things from biomes, animals and plants there start to disappear.

People need biomes for many reasons. It is important to protect them while we use them. Fortunately, people are working hard to protect biomes. Without biomes, many plants and animals would leave the world forever.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Understand

Comprehension

A **Match each sentence to its group.**

1 It gives us oxygen, which we need to live.
2 It is good for bees, which help plants to make new plants.
3 It has plants that keep the soil strong.
4 It gives us water to drink.
5 It has plants that may give us new medicines.
6 It gives us water to wash with.

Tropical Rainforest	Grassland	Freshwater
1		

B **Answer the questions.**

1 What do rainforests help take away from us?

2 What happens to some farmland soil?

3 What happens when people take too many things from biomes?

C **Words in Context** Read and write.

Arctic	hatches	glides	scenes



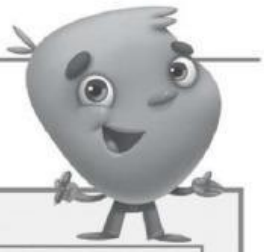
1 This desert snake _____ from an egg.
2 An eagle often _____ in the sky, searching for animals below.
3 Some _____ in a tropical rainforest may include sloths in trees.
4 The _____ fox lives in the tundra along with the polar bear.

D **About You** **Which biome would you like to visit and learn more about? Write two things you want to learn about that biome.**

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Grammar in Use



A Study the grammar.

Learn Grammar Present Perfect with *For* and *Since*

Period of Time	Point in Time
People **have used** these biomes for food, water, and shelter ***for*** a very long time.	Pollution **has hurt** biomes in our area ***since*** I was a child.
Scientists **haven't seen** a living golden toad ***for*** over twenty years.	People in many countries **haven't hunted** whales ***since*** 1982.

B **Change the tense of the underlined verb. Then complete the sentence with *for* or *since*.**

hiked

1 Antonio hasn't hike in a rainforest since he was in high school.

2 The camels haven't drink water on this desert journey _____ three days.

3 The people of the tundra have eat seal meat _____ a long time.

4 Unfortunately, our city zoo hasn't have sloths _____ 2005.

5 Ja-hoon has travel to the equator twice _____ he became a biologist.

6 Grasslands have be a safe home for many animals _____ centuries.

7 Maria's grandfather has go fishing in this lake _____ over thirty years.

8 People haven't take trees from this forest _____ they passed the new law.

9 Scientists have find new plants in the rainforest _____ many years.

10 My father hasn't visit Russia _____ he moved to New York.



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C Complete the sentences with the phrases in the box and *for* or *since*.

hundreds of years	this morning	1987	two weeks

1 Clara and her classmates have studied biomes _____.

2 I haven't seen a cactus on this hike _____.

3 Our government has protected this rainforest _____.

4 Polar bears have lived in this part of the tundra _____.



D Cross out the wrong word. Then rewrite the sentence to make it correct.

1 Sonya has lived in the taiga since two years.

_____

2 We haven't sail on the ocean since 2008.

_____

3 This sloth have slept for twelve hours.

_____

4 The scientist hasn't visit the tundra since last summer.

_____

E Read. Then write a *how long*? question for each statement.

1 Elephants have lived in this grassland for centuries.

How long have elephants lived in this grassland?

2 They have studied biomes since last Wednesday.

_____

3 Seals have swum along this coast for a long time.

_____

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Communicate

Word Study

catch	stitch	scratch	patch	itch	batch

A Z

A **Circle the correct *-tch* word for each sentence.**

1 The president has received a **stitch** / **batch** of letters about protecting our biomes.

2 You can **catch** / **patch** a cold in the desert as well as in the tundra.

3 After the rainforest hike, I **scratched** / **stitched** my sock because it had a hole in the toe.

4 The mother sloth **scratched** / **itched** her baby's back.

5 The polar bear rolled on the ice because its back **stitched** / **itched.**

6 Lassi selected an open **patch** / **batch** in the taiga to grow a vegetable garden.



B **Complete the sentences with the words from the box above.**

Omar's desert hike was very interesting. He saw a large bird _____ (1) a snake!

However, he had a few problems. First, his shirt made his back _____ (2), so he had to _____ (3) it with a stick he found on the ground. At lunch, he had to _____ (4) his backpack with thread, because there was a hole in it. Fortunately, his guide was very kind. He brought a _____ (5) of cookies to eat on the hike.

Then he took Omar to a _____ (6) of the desert that had some trees to sit under.

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Writing Study

A **Combine the two sentences with the word *until*. Use pronouns if possible.**

1 The biologists found a sloth. The biologists hiked through the tropical rainforest.
The biologists hiked through the tropical rainforest until they found a sloth.

2 The lion ran through the grassland. The lion caught the zebra.

3 The freshwater reached the ocean. The freshwater flowed through the river.

4 The temperate forest ground was covered with leaves. The leaves fell from the trees.



5 The whale swam through the Pacific Ocean. The whale reached Hawaii.

B **Write a paragraph about someone who visits a biome.**

Read the example below. Write at least one present perfect sentence with **for** or **since**. Write at least one sentence combining two actions with **until**.

> Ahmad **has studied** the rainforest **since September**. Tomorrow, he will hike through a real rainforest with his father near the Congo River in Africa. They will hike there **until** Ahmad's school holiday ends next Sunday. Ahmad **has thought** about this trip **for a long time**!

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LIVEWORKSHEETS