



Biome-in-a-Box Project



*****DUE ON**
Friday, March 29th, 2013

Biome-in-a-Box Diorama: (50 points)

You may choose from the following biomes:

1. Tundra
2. Taiga
3. Desert
4. Temperate Deciduous Forest
5. Tropical Rain Forest
6. Temperate Grassland
7. Savanna
8. Marine
9. Freshwater



- The box for the project should be shoebox size or larger.
- The diorama should contain:
 - At least 8 animal species found in your chosen biome.
 - At least 5 plant species found in your chosen biome.
 - The biome should be realistically represented with geographical features such as mountains, streams, rivers, etc.
 - You may use clay, paint, papier-mâché, small plastic trees or animals, or anything else that you can think of to portray your biome correctly. **BE CREATIVE!!**
 - A background on the back and sides of the box
 - The background may be painted, drawn and colored, or made of a neat collage of pictures cut from magazines

Biome Letter: (50 Points)

You have been chosen to join a scientific expedition to the biome you have chosen. While you are there you write a letter to your science teacher describing your biome. Your letter to me should include:

- An accurate description of your biome including what the seasons are like and how long they last.
- Descriptions of **at least** 5 plant **and** 8 animal species shown in your diorama
 - Descriptions should include adaptations to life in your biome.
- The average temperature.
- The average yearly rainfall.
- Map of world showing the locations of your biome
- The type of soil that can be found in your biome.
- A description of what life is like in your biome.

- Descriptions of unique conditions in your biome such as, permafrost, length of night and day, any other aspect of your biome that is interesting to you.
- Bibliography of sources using proper bibliography style.
- **The paper must be typed and double-spaced.**

Sources: You may use your textbook, class notes, encyclopedias, and the following Internet websites:

<http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/glossary/gloss5/biome/>
<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/biomes/>
<http://www.cotf.edu/ete/modules/msese/earthsysflr/biomes.html>
<http://www.fcasd.edu/schools/dms/Biome.htm>

Use only the websites listed. You can find all of the information that you need using them.

Plagiarism is unacceptable!! Do not cut and paste information from the Internet directly into your paper. Put the information into your own words. I have read all of these websites and I will double-check them with your paper.

The Biome-in-a-Box diorama is worth a maximum of 50 points.
 The Biome Letter is worth a maximum of 50 points.

Together a maximum of 100 points is available.

Use the rubrics provided to help you with designing and writing your project. I will use the rubrics to grade your diorama and your letter. You must turn in your rubric with your project.

Both the Biome-in-a-Box and the Biome Letter are:

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Biome Letter Rubric**NAME:** _____

Category	10	8	6	5
Amount of Information	Paper is at least 1.5 typed pages and all topics are addressed with at least 2 sentences about each.	Paper is at least 1.5 typed pages and all topics are addressed with at least 1 sentence about each.	Paper is not 1.5 typed pages but all topics are addressed with 1 sentence about each.	Paper is not 1.5 typed pages and one or more topics were not addressed.
Quality of Information	All information is accurate to chosen biome and is clearly organized.	Most information is accurate to chosen biome and is clearly organized.	Most information is accurate to chosen biome. Organization is unclear.	Most information is inaccurate to chosen biome and organization is unclear.
Sources: Bibliography	All sources are accurately documented in the desired format.	All sources are accurately documented, but a few are not in the desired format.	All sources are accurately documented, but many are not in the desired format.	Some sources are not accurately documented.
Internet Use	Successfully uses suggested internet links to find information and worked well during time allotted.	Moderately successful at using suggested internet links to find information and worked well during time allotted.	Successful to moderately successful at using suggested internet links to find information but was off task during the time allotted.	Needs assistance or supervision to use suggested internet links and/or was disruptive to others during time allotted.
Mechanics	No grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	Almost no grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	A few grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	Many grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.

Points earned: _____

Total points for Biome Letter: _____

Biome in a Box Diorama Rubric**NAME:** _____

Category	10	8	6	5
Attractiveness and Creativity	Display box is very attractive and creativity is evident.	Display box is very attractive.	Display box is somewhat attractive.	Display box is messy and unattractive.
Accuracy of Animals	More than 8 animals are accurately shown.	At least 8 animals are accurately shown.	One animal is inaccurately shown.	More than one animal is inaccurately shown.
Accuracy of Plants	More than 5 plants are accurately shown.	At least 5 plants are accurately shown.	One plant is inaccurately shown.	More than one plant is inaccurately shown.
Background	Background is very neatly depicted and present on all three sides.	Background is neatly depicted and present on all three sides.	Background is present on all three sides.	Background is not present on all three sides.
Completeness	All components of assignment are present.	Most (1 item missing) components of assignment are present.	Some (2 to 3 items missing) components of assignment are present.	Few (more than 3 items missing) components of assignment are present.

Points earned: _____ _____ _____ _____

Points from Diorama: _____

Points from Letter: _____

FINAL GRADE: _____