

Biomes/Ecosystems Final Project:

Due: June 8 (1st period) or June 9 (2nd period)

Projects turned in early (June 6 or 7) get 10% extra credit.

Penalty for late projects (into me by June 12): -30% of credit. After June 12, no credit

100 points

*Objective: Demonstrate your understanding of the basic facts and concepts about ecosystems through one of these projects. Projects can be individual efforts, or group work. A good project will require **significant** effort **outside** of class time.*

Projects:

Individual -

1. Biome Atlas: (e.g., Tropical Rainforests in Central and South America and Africa; Temperate Forests of Europe and Eastern United States; Arctic Tundra, Deserts of the world; etc.)
 - a. Maps, Facts, tables and charts organized into a book form. The Atlas “book” should be 5 - 10 pages, and bound in notebook form (folder covers). It should have an attractive book cover, title page, table of contents, as well as the requirements below.
2. Local Ecosystem Field Guide: (e.g., Gazzam Lake, Shel-Cheb Estuary, Grand Forest, Tideland)
 - a. Photos or sketches and descriptions of major plant and animal species found there, in context of the ecosystem. Plants and animals listed are directly observed by you. Introduction to biome or ecosystem as part of book introduction.

Group (will include both group and individual grades) –

3. Adventure Travel Promotional video or PowerPoint (e.g., Florida Everglades, African Savanna, Glacier Bay, Costa Rican Cloud forest)
 - a. Images, music and words to promote travel to a particular interesting ecosystem. 2 - 5 minute video or PowerPoint.
4. Design a zoo exhibit (e.g., Australian bush, Mountain forests, Asian rainforests, desert dwellers)
 - a. Model or detailed plan sketches to represent a particular biome, with a feature animal. Design a landscape and enclosure that will make the animal at home, allow care and visitors. Written specifications for plants/animals used, and rationale.
5. Biome songbook or CD (think world music influences)
 - a. Original or adapted (your words to known music) songs that tell the story of the biome. 3 – 5 songs (if performed, lyrics included). Drawings or pictures as part of artwork for CD cover or songbook cover.

Think about your audience. Not only should this project demonstrate your understanding, but people who read, view, or listen to your project should be able to have an increased understanding of the biome you are describing.

All projects need to incorporate data or information about the following items:

1. Biome type – this can be a title page, book or CD cover
2. Climate information – a climatogram (rainfall and temperature profile) and brief (1 – 2 paragraph) description of important climate features.
3. Lists of major plant/animal species.
4. Relationships among different biota – describe the interactions through food webs, or predator-prey, symbiosis, or mutualism relationships.
5. Details about 1 key organism of the ecosystem:
 - a. Habitat and range
 - b. Food and how it's acquired
 - c. Specific adaptations the organism has for its niche
 - d. Life cycle (including seasonal activities (e.g., migrations, hibernation), reproductive strategies, life span)
6. Main threat or cause of disruption or damage to the ecosystem
7. At least 3 resources used and cited – books, magazine or journal articles, websites (use EasyBib) **NO PLAGIARISM TOLERATED!**
8. Other features, depending on your project type
9. Self-evaluation