Name

**Biome Distribution**

In this activity you will investigate the relationship between the amount of rainfall and the variance of temperature and the effect on the distribution of biomes globally. This exercise provides practice in associating climate (as expressed in monthly averages of precipitation and temperature) with biomes. Below are nine example climatograms, grids on which averages of precipitation and temperature at a particular location are graphed. Although other factors may greatly affect climate, a climatogram provides enough information to identify a biome from which the data were obtained. We will graph the last climatogram together to make sure that you have one completed properly. When you make your own climatogram, be extremely careful as to how you record the information. All temperature readings are measured on the right side of the climatogram as a line graph. All precipitation measurements are on the left side of the climatogram and represented as a bar graph.

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Now create your own climatogram of the following data. Be sure to appropriately label all parts of the grid. Use the SAME scale as all the other climatograms above so you can accurately compare them.

**Tropical Rain Forest: Manokwari, New Guinea**

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|  | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
| P: | 27.8 | 27 | 31.5 | 28.5 | 19.7 | 21.4 | 15.8 | 13.7 | 12.4 | 11 | 16.8 | 27 |
| T: | 31 | 31 | 31 | 31.9 | 31.9 | 31.7 | 31.7 | 31.7 | 31.7 | 31.8 | 31.8 | 31.6 |

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Answer the following analysis questions be examining the climatograms.

1. How are the Tundra and Desert similar?

How are the Tundra and Desert different?

1. How are the Tropical Rain and Tropical Deciduous Forests similar?

How are the Tropical Rain and Tropical Deciduous Forests different?

1. Lawrence, Kansas and Nashville, Tennessee occupy similar latitudes. Why is one found in a grassland and the other in a forest biome?
2. Which biome has the most rainfall? Why might this be?
3. Which biome has the least rainfall? Why might this be?
4. Which biome has the highest average temperature? Why might this be?

Which biome has the lowest average temperature? Why might this be?

1. Which biome has the most consistent year round temperature? Where is it located?
2. Which biome has the most variable year round temperature? Where is it located?
3. Considering that the information in your climatograms is presented on a monthly basis, How would you determine which biomes are located in the southern hemisphere?
4. Which biomes have 4 seasons? How can you tell?
5. Explain 2 patterns you observe in the different biomes.

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| Now graph the information for San Francisco. | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D | | P: | 4.5 | 2.8 | 2.6 | 1.5 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 2.5 | 3.5 | | T: | 13.0 | 15.0 | 16.0 | 17.0 | 17.0 | 19.0 | 18.0 | 18.0 | 21.0 | 20.0 | 17.0 | 14.0 | |

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Compare the climatogram for San Francisco with the ten known climatograms. What biome is San Francisco found in? If needed, estimate for a best-fit guess. Explain your answer.

During the thirty-year period used for the figures in the San Francisco climatogram there were four drought periods. How would this effect the appearance of the climatogram?

Finally, use your book and Internet resources to investigate each of the biomes and complete the table.

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| **BIOME** | **3 Indicator Animals** | **2 Indicator Plants** | **2 Characteristics** |
| Tundra |  |  |  |
| Taiga |  |  |  |
| Temperate Deciduous Forest |  |  |  |
| Tropical Grasslands (Savanna) |  |  |  |
| Temperate Grasslands |  |  |  |
| Tropical Rain Forest |  |  |  |
| Chaparral |  |  |  |
| Tropical Desert |  |  |  |