

Scott Primary School - Would you like to live in a desert Knowledge Organiser

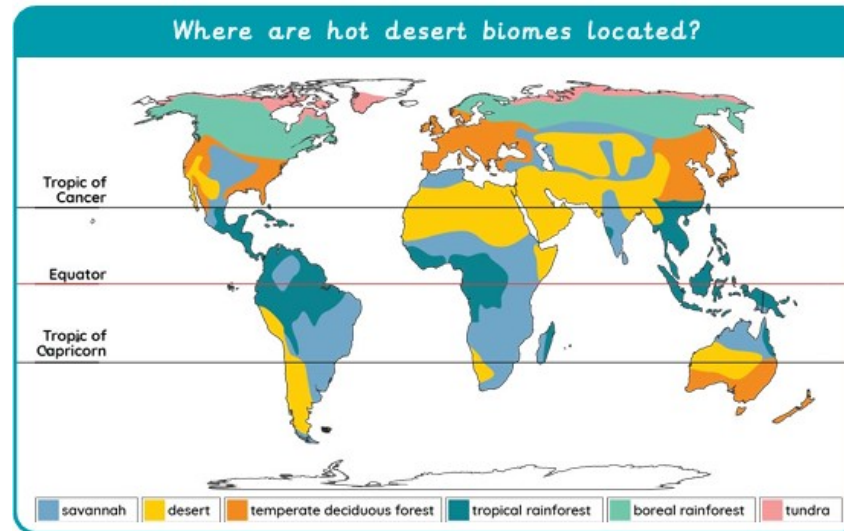


Important Facts

- Most hot deserts are found near the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, between 15-30° north and south of the Equator. The largest hot desert is the Sahara in Africa which spans the whole width of the continent.
- Notable world deserts are: Gobi Desert, Oleshky Sands, Sahara Desert, Great Victoria Desert, Chihuahuan Desert, Patagonian Desert, Antarctic Polar Desert and Mojave.
- The Mojave desert is located in the USA, North America.
- Deserts are used as *nature reserves*, for recreational purposes, farming or ranching, military purposes, mining, renewable energy, tourism and settlement.
- Physical features of the Mojave desert are sand dunes, salt flats, mushroom rocks, mesa, and natural arch formed by erosion from wind-blown sand.
- They give us renewable energy, oil, coal, precious minerals such as gold, copper and silver.

Deserts are at risk (desertification) from:

- Climate change (increase temperatures).
- Increasing population..
- Chopping trees down
- Over farming and grazing.



Key Vocabulary

arid	Too little rain to support lots of vegetation
barren	Land that cannot grow vegetation.
biome	An area of the world with similar climate and landscape, where similar plants and animals live.
desertification	Desertification is a type of gradual land degradation of fertile land into arid desert due to a combination of natural processes and human activities.
climate	Long-term weather conditions in a specific region.
desert	Any stretch of land with little or no rainfall and extremely sparse vegetation and wildlife.
Desert biome	A hot desert biome is hot, dry and arid, although temperatures can drop at night and heavy downpours can occur (flash flooding).
mining	The process of digging up valuable minerals from the Earth's crust.
rainfall	The amount of rain falling in a place over a particular time.
ranching	Keeping animals on a large farm particularly in the Americas.
renewable energy	Energy generated from a particular source such as sun, wind or water.



sand dune



natural arch



mushroom rock



mesa



salt flat