



ST. ALBAN'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
LEAD THE WAY

Yr 3 Geography: Plants of the World



climate zone

An division of the world's climate based on its average temperatures and precipitation.

biome

The plants and animals living in a particular climate zone.

Plants and animals are all suited to different climates. A climate zone and the plants and animals that live within it make up a **biome**. Plants that live in different parts of the world might have similar characteristics if they live in the same biome.



A mega-diverse country is one of a group of countries that house the majority of the world's species of plants and animals, as well as a lot of species that are endemic to that country. There are seventeen mega-diverse countries in the world.



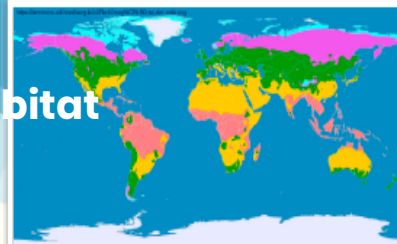
The word 'endemic' means that the species only lives in that particular country. For example, there are about 9000 species of plants in Madagascar that are only found in Madagascar. These are the endemic plants of the country.

Many plants are so highly in demand for use by humans that they are not always harvested responsibly. **Deforestation** is a major problem that is caused by cutting down too many trees for wood. This causes a loss of habitat for animals and many problems with the environment, such as affecting the water cycle.

This is a simplified climate zone map - there are lots of other climate zones but these are the main ones!

Tundra

A treeless area in the Arctic region. Cold and windy all year round with little precipitation.



Tundra
Ice cap
Subarctic
Warm temperate
Subtropical
Tropical

Subarctic

Long, very cold winters and short, cool to mild summers. Usually very little precipitation.

Warm temperate

Moderate temperatures all year round, not too hot or too cold. Temperatures can vary a lot and there are four seasons.

Subtropical

Long, dry, hot summers and mild, wet winters. Spring and autumn are very short.

Tropical

Hot or warm all year round. There are two seasons - a wet and a dry season. Temperatures don't change much throughout the year.

All plants need the same things in order to survive. They need air, nutrients (food), water and light. However, just like animals, plants need to be able to adapt to the environment they live in. Some plants can survive in really cold areas, others in really hot areas, some in dry areas and some in wet areas.



Black cohosh flowers grow in moist, shady areas.



Palm trees like hot, sunny areas with no frost.



Many vegetables like cabbage and spinach can grow even in frost.



Cacti can survive without water for long periods, sometimes years.