



Biome Adaptation Curriculum

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In this unique curriculum, biomes are used as a basis for understanding the adaptation of people, plants and animals to the environment. The subjects of geography, history, zoology, botany, literature and art are integrated along with math and language to introduce the child to his study of the natural environments or biomes of the earth. The biomes identified in this curriculum were chosen in cooperation with members of the Department of Ecology at the University of Georgia. They are accurate and yet general enough to be manageable to the age group addressed. The biomes we have identified in this curriculum are: **desert, grassland, temperate forest, mountain, tropical forest, wetland, polar region, and ocean.**

The curriculum is designed to be used with materials developed by Waseca Learning Environment for elementary grades. The first presentation involves the use of a set of three-part cards (picture, label, and description) that introduces the biomes identified in the curriculum. Those biomes then become the basis of study for each continent. "Biomes of a Continent" involves materials that focus on a study of each of the continents. Each continent study includes a set of three-part cards for each biome. The set of cards for each biome includes:

plants and animals- life that is adapted to a particular environment with an example of:

- fish
- amphibians
- reptiles
- birds
- mammals
- invertebrates
- plants

a group of people- indigenous people or those presently inhabiting a region
- how they adapt to their environment in terms of:

- food
- clothing
- shelter
- transportation
- culture

The information provided in the materials is not intended to be inclusive by any means, but to be a structure for study and a departure point for the child's own research. The materials are designed to be used independently by the child after an initial introduction by the teacher to a small group. The purpose of this curriculum is to help foster an appreciation of the the diversity of people, plants, and animals and an understanding of their dependence on the environment and their interdependence with one another.