**Major Biomes of North America**

A biome is a community of plants and animals that live in a large geographical area that has a particular climate.

- **Boreal forest**
  - short growing season; spruce, fir trees

- **Coniferous forest**
  - cool climate; cedar, redwood, pine trees

- **Desert**
  - annual rainfall of less than 25cm (10 in.); cactuses

- **Grassland**
  - annual rainfall of 25-76cm (10-30 in.); grasses and grains

- **Deciduous Forest**
  - cold winters, moist, warm summers; elms, maples, oaks

- **Tropical rain forest**
  - warm, moist all year; palms, tree ferns, climbing vines

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1. Describe some characteristics of the biomes of the North American continent.

2. Compare the relationship between climate and plant life from the equator to the north.

**STUDY QUESTION:** Find out about the vast biome called the marine biome.