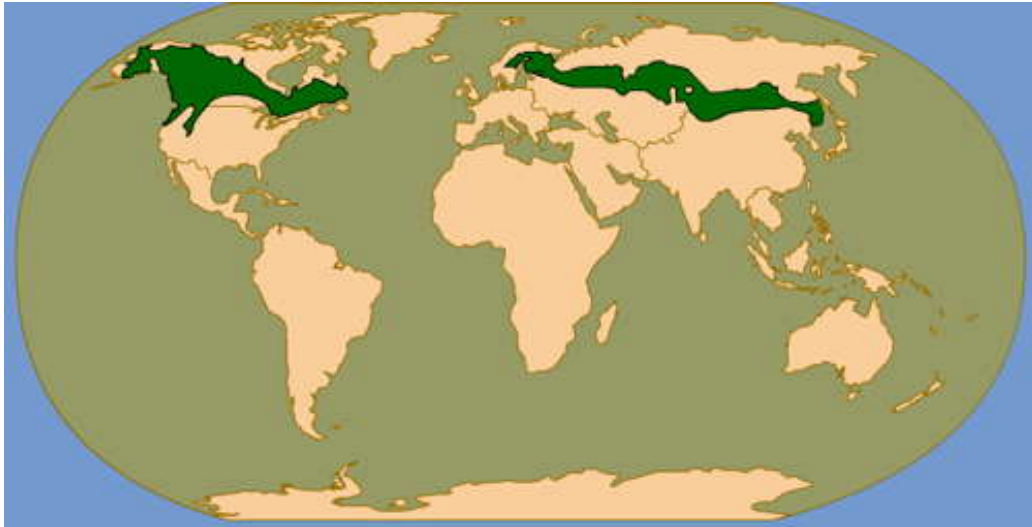




Taiga

INTRODUCTION



Taigas are boreal forests, or northern coniferous forests. (*Taiga* is Russian for "marshy pine forest.") They stretch across the northern parts of North America, Europe, and Asia. They are usually located south of tundra and north of temperate deciduous forests and grasslands. Taigas also extend south in the alpine regions of the Rocky Mountains and the Sierras in the western United States. The taiga is the largest biome on Earth. It covers about 20 million hectares (50 million acres) of land, about 17% of Earth's land area.



Art Explosion



Art Explosion

There is always abundant water in taigas, even in areas of dense trees

Some sections of taiga have space between conifer trees, where grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, and deciduous trees, such as aspens, grow.