## TOPIC 1.2

### Terrestrial Biomes

#### Required Course Content

**ENDURING UNDERSTANDING**

**ERT-1**
Ecosystems are the result of biotic and abiotic interactions.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE**

**ERT-1.B**
Describe the global distribution and principal environmental aspects of terrestrial biomes.

**ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE**

**ERT-1.B.1**
A biome contains characteristic communities of plants and animals that result from, and are adapted to, its climate.

**ERT-1.B.2**
Major terrestrial biomes include taiga, temperate rainforests, temperate seasonal forests, tropical rainforests, shrubland, temperate grassland, savanna, desert, and tundra.

**ERT-1.B.3**
The global distribution of nonmineral terrestrial natural resources, such as water and trees for lumber, varies because of some combination of climate, geography, latitude and altitude, nutrient availability, and soil.

**ERT-1.B.4**
The worldwide distribution of biomes is dynamic; the distribution has changed in the past and may again shift as a result of global climate changes.

**AVAILABLE RESOURCES**

- Classroom Resource > AP Environmental Science Teacher’s Guide
- External Resource > Environmental Literacy Council’s AP Environmental Science Course Material
- The Exam > Student Performance Q&A 2016, Q1
- The Exam > Samples and Commentary 2016, Q1

**SUGGESTED SKILL**

1.B
Concept Explanation

Explain environmental concepts and processes.