

## **Student Work Sample for African Regions**

### **African Rainforest Biome**

The rainforests of Africa cover one fifth of the land. These rainforests are made up of four layers. They are emergent, canopy, under story and the forest floor. Within all of these layers there are many plants and animals living in harmony. To be considered a rainforest, it must get 98.5 inches of rain per year but the African rainforests gets 160-400 inches a year. The acacia tree and pitcher plant are native to the African rainforests. Besides plants, many animals live here such like the African tree frog, the leaf cutter ant, and the three-toed sloth. People, such as the Baka, live in the rainforests also and are dependent on the rainforest for all their needs. But these beautiful places are disappearing due to the demand for lumber.

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One of the largest biomes on the continent of Africa is the desert. This region is found in Northern Africa. In the desert, it is hot during the day and cold at night. There is not much rainfall but plants have adapted to this by finding ways to get more water. Two native plants are the elephant tree and the desert willow. Foxes and hyenas are native to the desert along with the camel. The desert is expanding which is called desertification. This is changing the good land to desert because of change in the climate, overgrazing, or destructive land use.