

The Deciduous Forest

The Deciduous Biome is also called the Temperate Forest Biome.

Deciduous means "tend to fall off", in fact the tree leaves fall off seasonally, in this region.

This biome is found in the mid-latitude areas. The Deciduous Forests are found in the eastern United States, the middle of Europe, Japan, and parts of Russia and China. It rains a lot in this biome.

Summers are mild in temperature and average about 21°C, however the winter temperature is freezing. The Deciduous Forest biome has four distinct seasons: spring, summer, autumn and winter.

Deciduous forests are home to deer, black bears, wolves, coyotes, hawks, owls, songbirds, and many other species. It is also home to many insects, spiders, frogs, turtles, snakes and many types of birds. Animals in the Deciduous Forests can adapt to the changing weather patterns of each season. They need to survive the cold winters and the hot summers. Some animals hibernate and some migrate during the cold winter months. Those animals who don't hibernate or migrate have special adaptations to survive both weather and winter predators. In winter animals develop a warm winter coat, and lose it in spring and in summer. Many of the animals are camouflaged to look like the ground which protects them from predators.

The soil is very rich in this biome.

Trees in the Deciduous Forest biome include elm, oak, and cedar.

Deciduous forests have at least three layers. The tallest trees make up the canopy. Saplings and shrubs are found in the understory. Ferns, moss, and wildflowers grow on the forest floor.

The Deciduous trees adapt remarkably to the seasonal changes by changing colour in autumn, losing their leaves in or by winter and growing full leaves in the summer. There are also many shrubs and mosses that grow on the forest floor which doesn't get a lot of sunlight, making it ideal for these types of plants.

