

## Discovering Rainforest Locations: Science and Conservation ERM Grades 4-8

Date completed: March 2008

### Overview

CBRI designed a series of data rich maps for the Education Department at the California Academy of Sciences to accompany their Educator Resource Materials (ERMs). Educator Resource Materials (ERMs) are kits on life science themes available for use in the classroom. These kits are filled with specimens, books, videos and other materials selected for student interest.

### Activity Background:

By using data rich maps to identify where in the world there is high rainfall, high temperatures, nutrient-poor *soil* and high *biodiversity*, students will discover where tropical rainforests thrive. Through this activity, students will understand that *abiotic* factors such as temperature and precipitation help determine what types of ecosystems exist in a given area.

**Activity Objectives:** Students, grades 4-8 will:

1. Practice reading and interpreting various types of world maps.
2. Learn the locations of tropical rainforests.
3. Discuss connections between living and non-living components of an ecosystem.

### Materials:

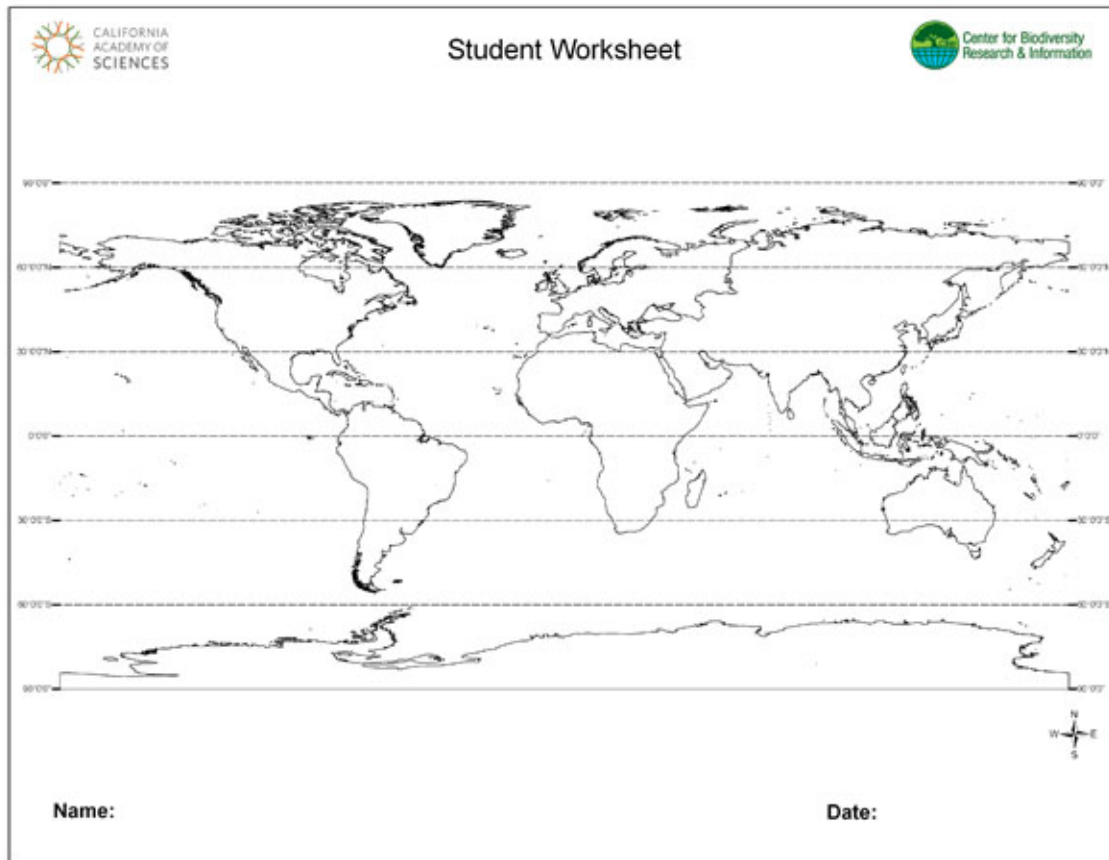
- blank world maps (one per student)
- world temperature maps (one per group of students)
- world precipitation maps (one per group of students)
- world soil maps (one per group of students)
- world biodiversity maps (one per group of students)
- colored pencils (each student needs four different colors)
- tropical rainforest maps on transparencies (one per group of students)

*\*Maps on following pages\**

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### Student Worksheet



The worksheet features a world map with latitude lines at 90°N, 60°N, 30°N, 0° (Equator), 30°S, 60°S, and 90°S. The map is titled "Student Worksheet" and includes logos for the California Academy of Sciences and the Center for Biodiversity Research & Information. At the bottom left, there is a "Name:" label, and at the bottom right, there is a "Date:" label. A compass rose is located in the bottom right corner of the map area.

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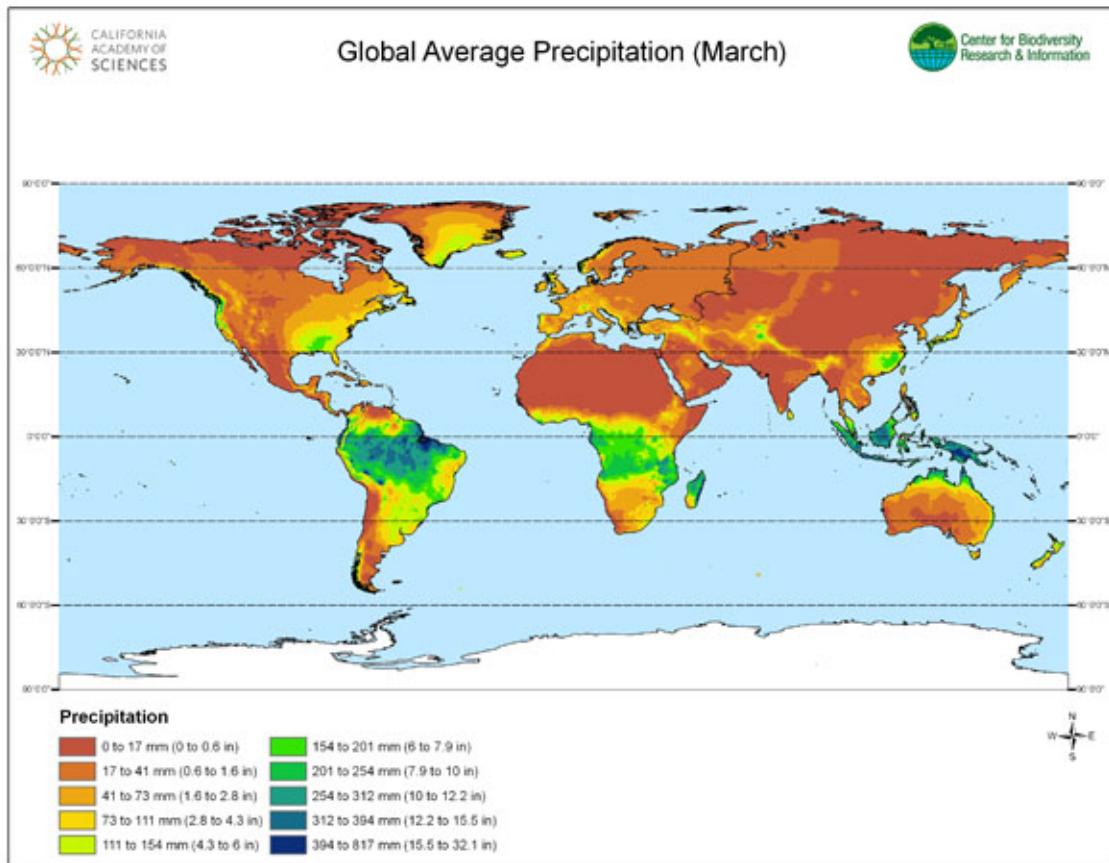
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### Rainfall map



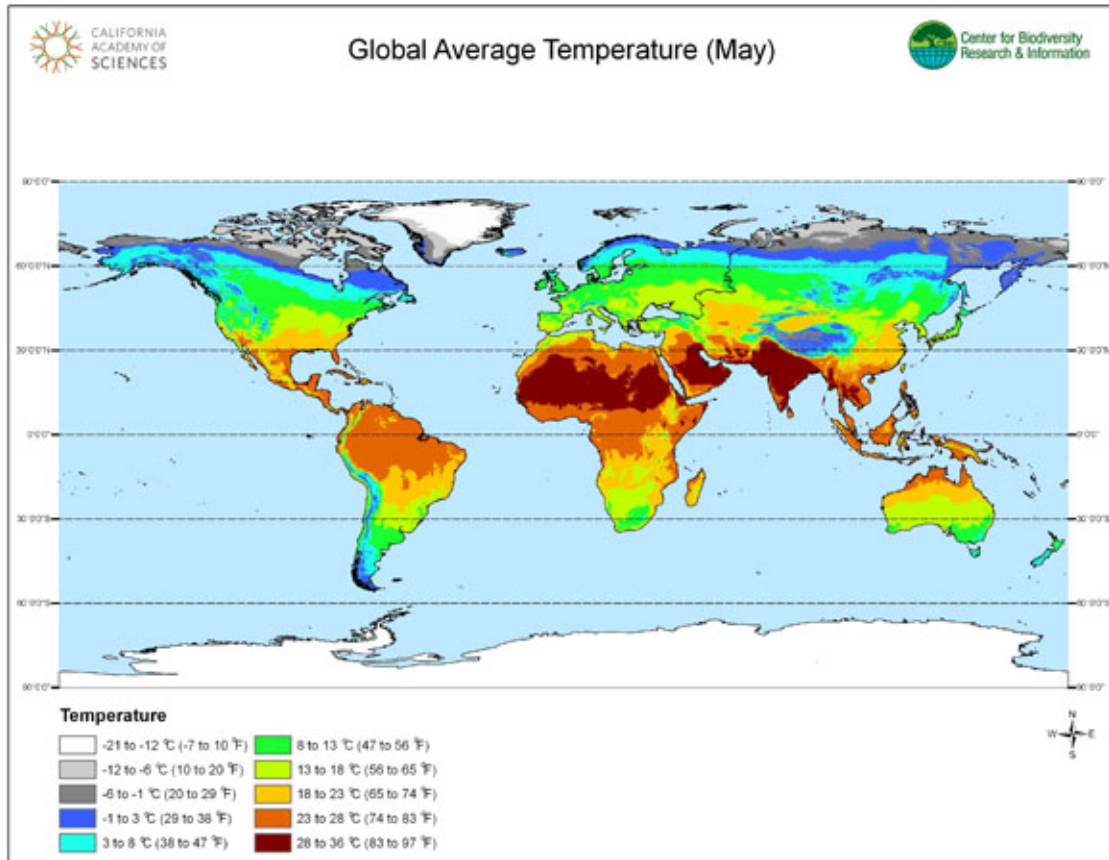
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### Temperature map



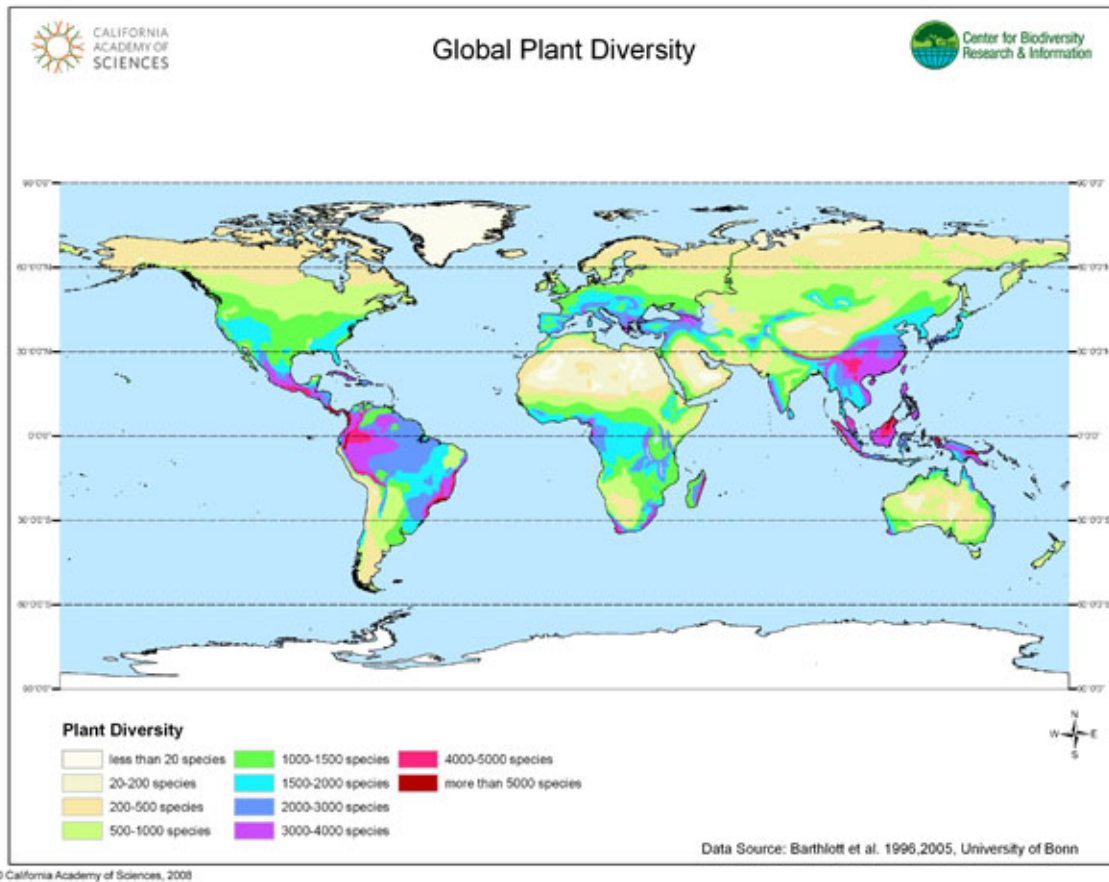
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### Biodiversity map



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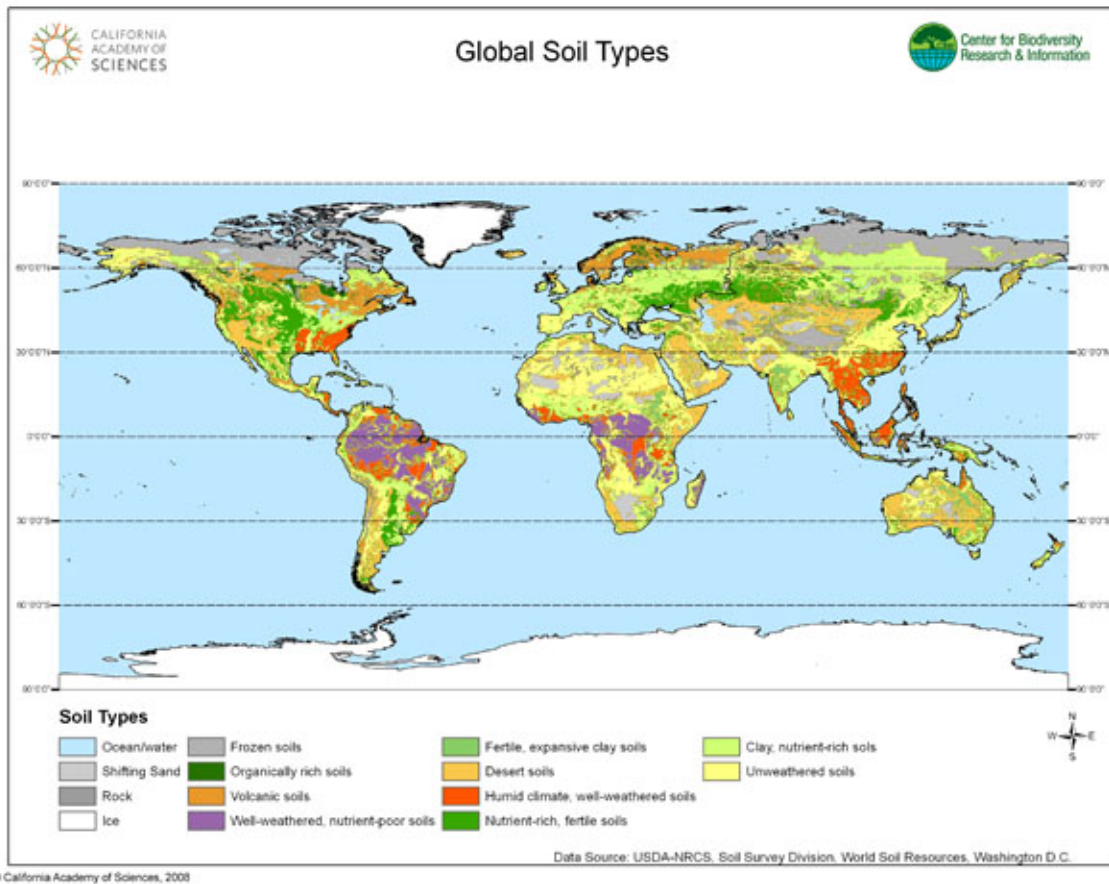
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### Soil map



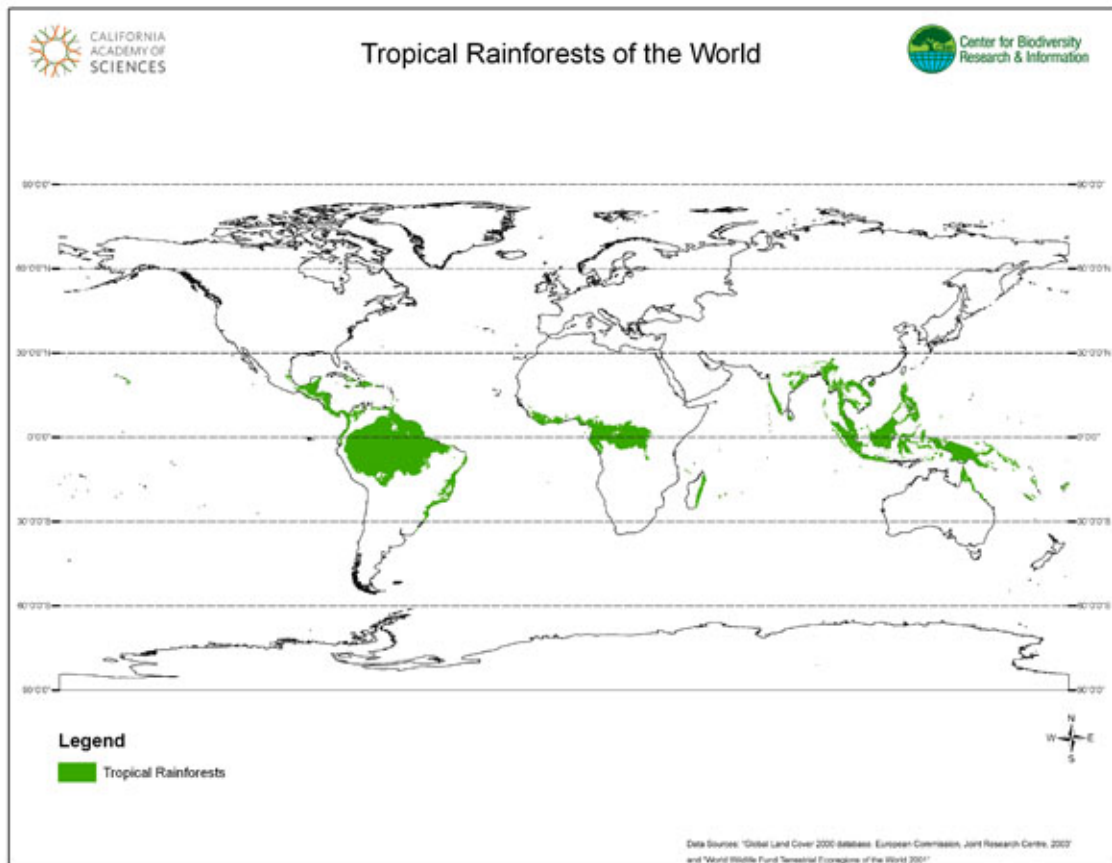
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### Tropical Rainforest transparency map



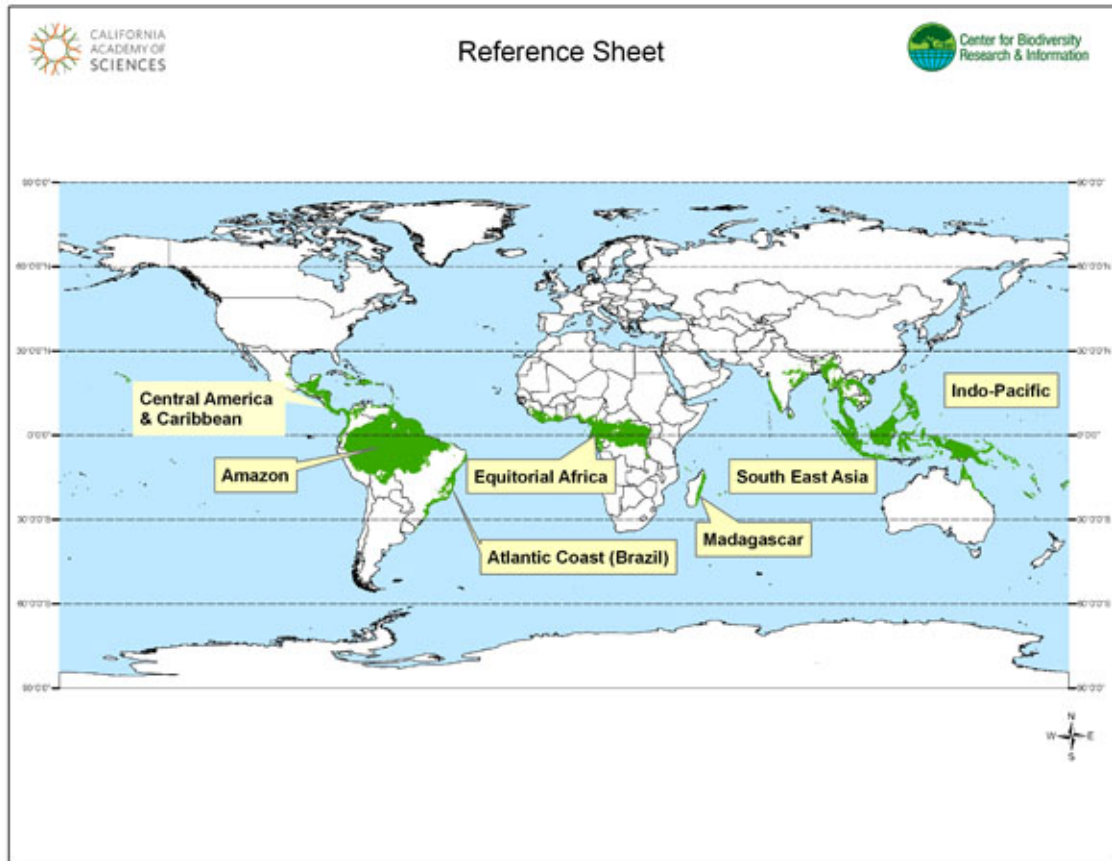
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### Reference map



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