Biome Activity

A “BIOME” is a complex of terrestrial communities that covers a large area and is characterized by certain soil and climate.

The “major” biomes are:

TROPICAL RAIN FOREST

TROPICAL DRY FOREST

TROPICAL SAVANNA

DESERT

TEMPERATE GRASSLAND

TEMPERATE WOODLAND AND SHRUBLAND

TEMPERATE FOREST

NORTHWESTERN CONIFEROUS FOREST

BOREAL FOREST

TUNDRA

TASK:

Imagine you have won 3 million dollars to build your dream home. Conditions: You are required to remain in that home as your primary residence for the remainder of your life and you must choose one of the ten major biomes to build it in. You will be allotted 5 acres for your home.

1. Which biome would you choose? What features of that biome appeal to you? What are your prior experiences with that biome?
2. What is the average temperature and precipitation in your biome?
3. What are the major challenges which must be overcome to live in a home in your biome?
4. What features would you build into your home to maximize its energy efficiency and sustainability?
5. What are other elements of your ecosystem that you would have to consider(biotic and abiotic)?
6. What factors would pose the greatest long-term challenges to living in your home(assume you will be there for 70 years)?

RESOURCES:

Descriptions of the biomes are contained in pages 100-104 of the textbook.

Use your Chromebooks to research your biomes(definitions, summaries, examples, specific conditions etc).

If you have time and would like to draw a sketch of your home situated in its biome(colored please), extra credit will be awarded. See me for blank paper and pencils are available in the classroom.