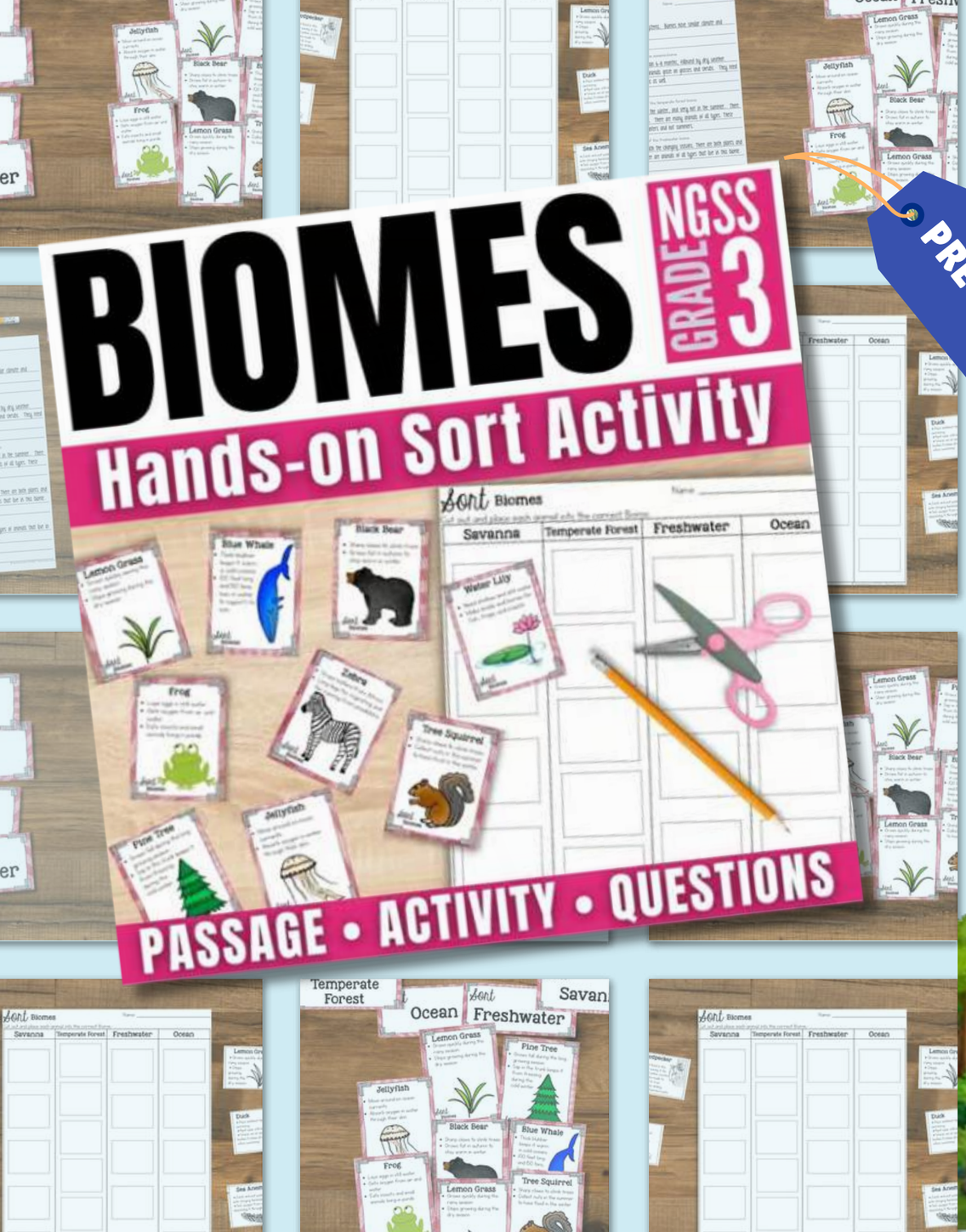


Make Ecosystem Learning Hands-On!

3RD GRADE

SORT

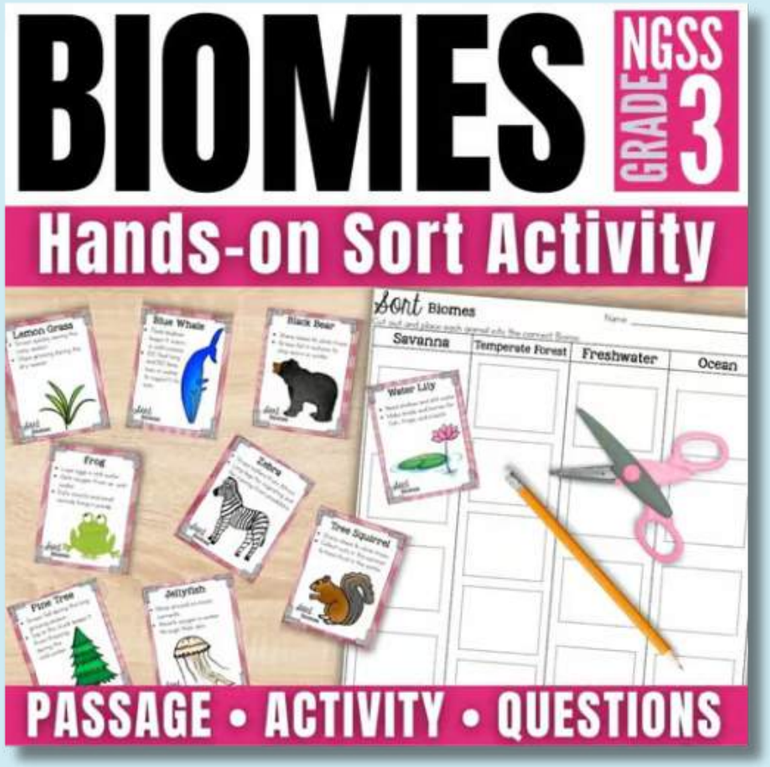
BIOMES

ECOSYSTEMS & BIODIVERSITY

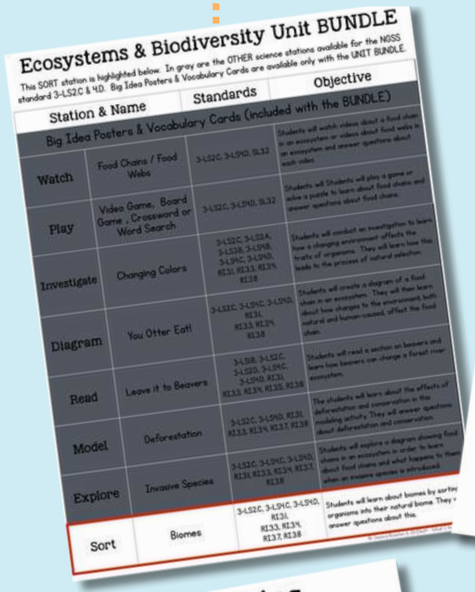
KEEP SCROLLING TO SEE WHAT'S INSIDE!



ACTIVITY OVERVIEW



- Students read a passage
- Students sort cards in a hands-on activity.
- Then lastly, they will answer questions based on their sorting activity.


Ecosystems & Biodiversity Unit BUNDLE

This SORT station is highlighted below. In gray are the OTHER science stations available for the NGSS standard 3-LS2.C & ND. Big Idea Posters & Vocabulary Cards are available only with the UNIT BUNDLE.

Station & Name	Standards	Objective
Big Idea Posters & Vocabulary Cards (included with the BUNDLE)		
Watch / Food Chains / Food Webs	3-LS2.C, 3-LS4.D, SL3.2	Students will watch videos about a food chain in an ecosystem or videos about food webs in each video.
Play / Video Game, Board Game, Crossword or Word Search	3-LS2.C, 3-LS4.D, SL3.2	Students will Students will play a game or solve a puzzle to learn about food chains and answer questions about food chains.
Investigate / Changing Colors	3-LS2.C, 3-LS3.A, 3-LS3.B, 3-LS4.B, 3-LS4.C, 3-LS4.D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.9, RI.3.8	Students will conduct an investigation to learn how a changing environment affects the traits of organisms. They will learn how this leads to the process of natural selection.
Diagram / You Otter Eat!	3-LS2.C, 3-LS4.C, 3-LS4.D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.9, RI.3.8	Students will create a diagram of a food chain in an ecosystem. They will then learn about how changes to the environment, both natural and human-caused, affect the food chain.
Read / Leave it to Beavers	3-LS1.B, 3-LS2.C, 3-LS2.D, 3-LS4.C, 3-LS4.D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.9, RI.3.5, RI.3.8	Students will read a section on beavers and learn how beavers can change a forest river ecosystem.
Model / Deforestation	3-LS2.C, 3-LS4.D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.9, RI.3.3, RI.3.8	The students will learn about the effects of deforestation and conservation in this modeling activity. They will answer questions about deforestation and conservation.
Explore / Invasive Species	3-LS2.C, 3-LS4.C, 3-LS4.D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.9, RI.3.3, RI.3.8	Students will explore a diagram showing food chains in an ecosystem in order to learn about food chains and what happens to them when an invasive species is introduced.
Sort / Biomes	3-LS2.C, 3-LS4.C, 3-LS4.D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.9, RI.3.7, RI.3.8	Students will learn about biomes by sorting organisms into their natural biome. They will answer questions about this.


Science Stations Overview

This is a general overview of all science stations in each UNIT BUNDLE.

Watch a Video
At this station, students will watch a video relevant to the topic and answer questions. You have the option of using the included worksheet with the questions or using the task cards and having students respond in their science journals.

Play a Game
Students play a game and answer questions about the experience. You have the option of using the included worksheet with the questions or using the task cards and having students respond in their science journals.

Investigate
Students use materials to investigate the science topic by following directions and recording results. Students answer questions about the investigation.

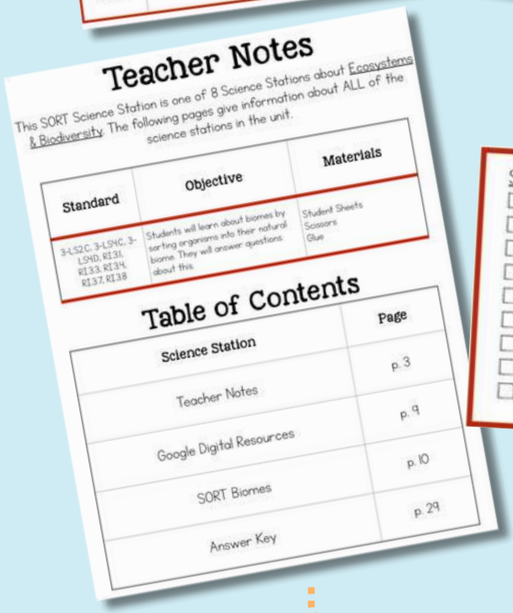
Draw a Diagram
Students draw and label a diagram specific to certain requirements. Students then explain how their diagram meets the requirements.

Read a Passage
Students read a short passage about the topic and answer questions about the information in the passage. You have the option of using the included worksheet with the questions or using the task cards and having students respond in their science journals.

Create a Model
Students use materials to illustrate the science concept and answer questions. You have the option of using the included worksheet with the questions or using the task cards and having students respond in their science journals.

Explore
Students create a sample and manipulate it using the new science concepts they have learned. Students answer question based on the effects.

Sort
Students sort cards into groups or put them in a specific order. Students record the sort and then describe their reasoning.


Teacher Notes

This SORT Science Station is one of 8 Science Stations about Ecosystems & Biodiversity. The following pages give information about ALL of the science stations in the unit.

Standard	Objective	Materials
3-LS2.C, 3-LS4.C, 3-LS4.D, RI.3.1, RI.3.3, RI.3.9, RI.3.7, RI.3.8	Students will learn about biomes by sorting organisms into their natural biome. They will answer questions about this.	Student Sheets Scissors Glue

Table of Contents

Science Station	Page
Teacher Notes	p. 3
Google Digital Resources	p. 9
SORT Biomes	p. 10
Answer Key	p. 29


Sort
- ☐ Directions Card
- ☐ Sort Cards
- ☐ Student Chart
- ☐ Cards to Sort
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Glue
- ☐ Response Sheet
- ☐ Task Cards
- ☐ Science Journal

Unit Bundle Components

Stations Overview

Materials Checklist

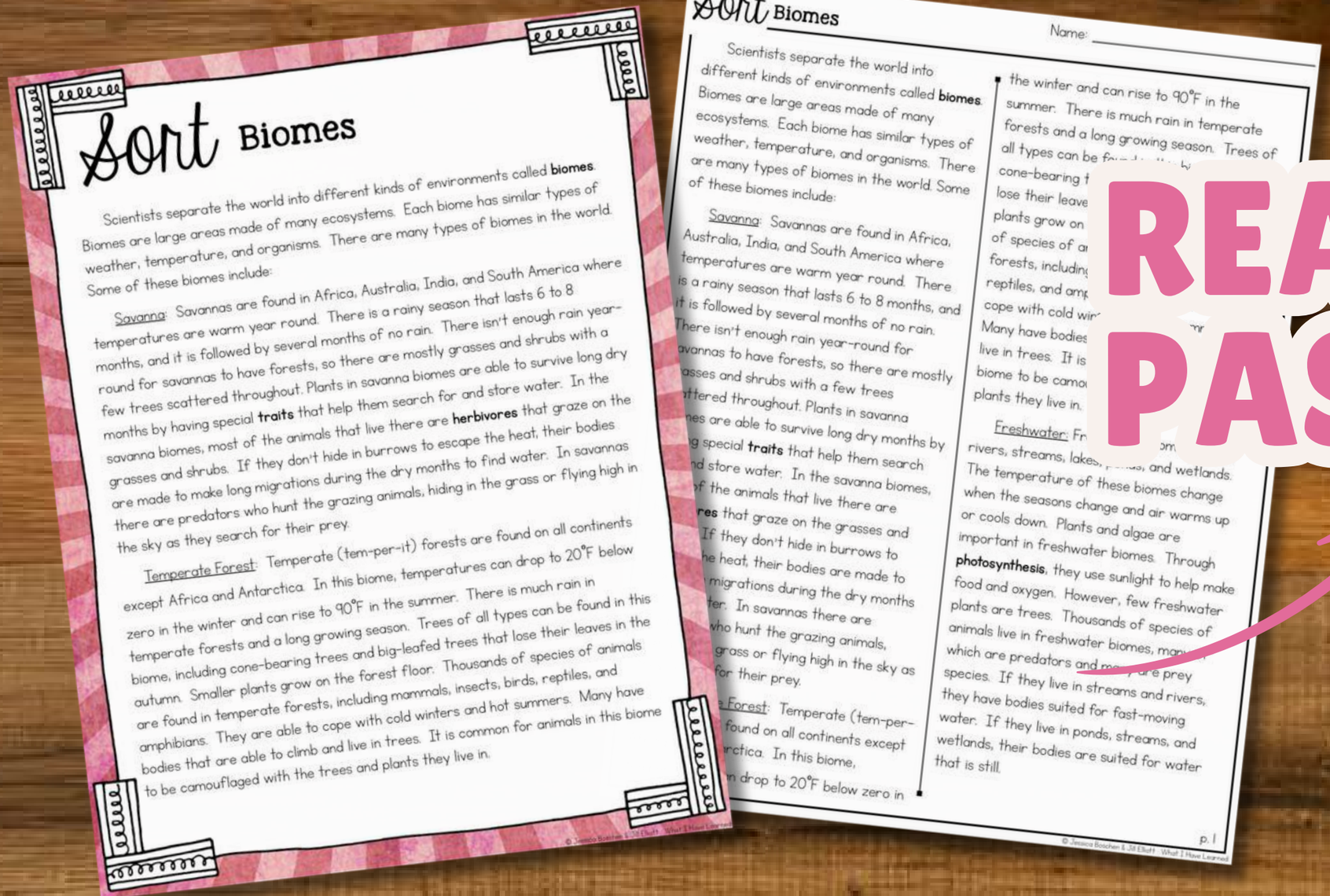
Teacher Notes/ Table of Contents

WHAT'S INCLUDED
SORTING SCIENCE STAION

- Teacher Notes
- Student Reading Passage
- Color Sorting Cards
- Black & White Sorting Worksheet
- Differentiated Questions
- Answer Key
- Google Forms™
- Google Slides™



SORT: READING PASSAGE



Sort Biomes

Scientists separate the world into different kinds of environments called **biomes**. Biomes are large areas made of many ecosystems. Each biome has similar types of weather, temperature, and organisms. There are many types of biomes in the world. Some of these biomes include:

Savanna: Savannas are found in Africa, Australia, India, and South America where temperatures are warm year round. There is a rainy season that lasts 6 to 8 months, and it is followed by several months of no rain. There isn't enough rain year-round for savannas to have forests, so there are mostly grasses and shrubs with a few trees scattered throughout. Plants in savanna biomes are able to survive long dry months by having special **traits** that help them search for and store water. In the savanna biomes, most of the animals that live there are **herbivores** that graze on the grasses and shrubs. If they don't hide in burrows to escape the heat, their bodies are made to make long migrations during the dry months to find water. In savannas there are predators who hunt the grazing animals, hiding in the grass or flying high in the sky as they search for their prey.

Temperate Forest: Temperate (tem-per-it) forests are found on all continents except Africa and Antarctica. In this biome, temperatures can drop to 20°F below zero in the winter and can rise to 90°F in the summer. There is much rain in temperate forests and a long growing season. Trees of all types can be found in this biome, including cone-bearing trees and big-leafed trees that lose their leaves in the autumn. Smaller plants grow on the forest floor. Thousands of species of animals are found in temperate forests, including mammals, insects, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. They are able to cope with cold winters and hot summers. Many have bodies that are able to climb and live in trees. It is common for animals in this biome to be camouflaged with the trees and plants they live in.

Sort Biomes

Name: _____

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Freshwater: Freshwater biomes include rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, and wetlands. The temperature of these biomes change when the seasons change and air warms up or cools down. Plants and algae are important in freshwater biomes. Through **photosynthesis**, they use sunlight to help make food and oxygen. However, few freshwater plants are trees. Thousands of species of animals live in freshwater biomes, many of which are predators and many are prey species. If they live in streams and rivers, they have bodies suited for fast-moving water. If they live in ponds, streams, and wetlands, their bodies are suited for water that is still.

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READING PASSAGE

ENGAGING SORT ACTIVITY

Sort
Temperate Forest

Sort
Ocean

Sort
Savanna

Sort
Freshwater

Lemon Grass
- Grows quickly during the rainy season
- Stops growing during the dry season

Sort Biomes

Pine Tree
- Grows tall during the long growing season
- Sap in the trunk keeps it from freezing during the cold winter

Jellyfish
- Move around on ocean currents
- Absorb oxygen in water through their skin

Sort Biomes

Black Bear
- Sharp claws to climb trees
- Grows fat in autumn to stay warm in winter

Blue Whale
- Thick blubber keeps it warm in cold oceans
- 100 feet long and 150 tons; lives in water to support its size

Frog
- Lays eggs in still water
- Gets oxygen from air and water
- Eats insects and small animals living in ponds

Sort Biomes

Lemon Grass
- Grows quickly during the rainy season
- Stops growing during the dry season

Sort Biomes

Tree Squirrel
- Sharp claws to climb trees
- Collect nuts in the summer to have food in the winter

Sort Biomes

BLACK & WHITE WORKSHEET

Sort Biomes

Name: _____

Cut out and place each animal into the correct Biome.

Savanna	Temperate Forest	Freshwater	Ocean

Platypus
- Thick fur traps air to keep it warm in water
- Digs burrows in river and pond banks
- Webbed feet for swimming



Woodpecker
- Store food in the summer saving it for the cold winter months
- Feet are made to hold tight to tree trunks while drilling holes for food and nests



Maple Tree
- Sap in the trunk keeps it from freezing during the cold winter
- Loses leaves and becomes inactive during winter



Trout
- Hide in plants at bottom of rivers and streams
- Eat small animals found in freshwater



Water Lily
- Need shallow and still water
- Make shade and homes for fish, frogs, and insects



Black Bear
- Sharp claws to climb trees
- Grows fat in autumn to stay warm in winter



Lemon Grass
- Grows quickly during the rainy season
- Stops growing during the dry season



Kelp
- A brown algae
- Provides shelter for fish and otters
- Air sacs help it float so it can stay in sunlight



Duck
- Have webbed feet for swimming
- Nest near still water
- Smear an oil over their bodies to keep dry, even when swimming



- Stores up to 26,000 gallons of water in its trunk to get it through the long dry season
- Found in Africa

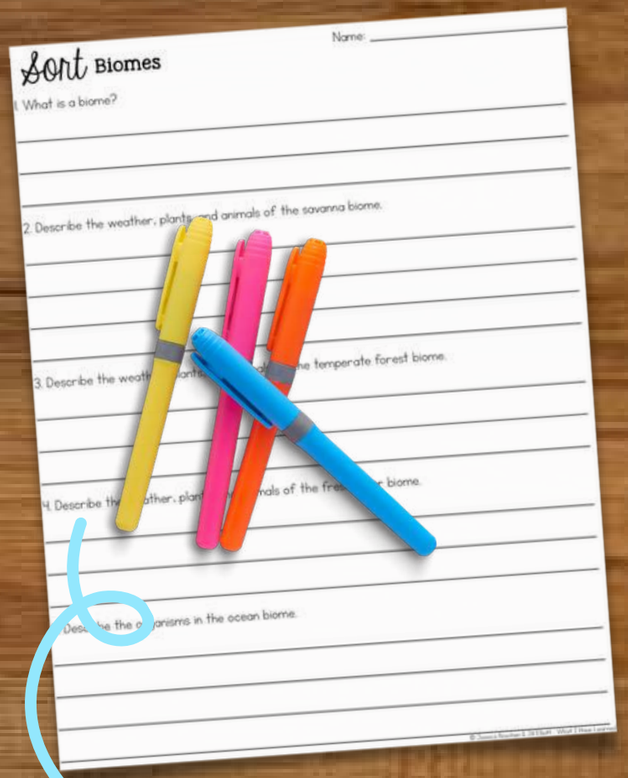
Baobab Tree



Sea Anemone
- Catch and eat passing fish with stinging tentacles
- Get oxygen from water by absorbing it through their skin



DIFFERENTIATED QUESTIONS



SHORT ANSWER



FILL-IN-THE BLANK



TASK CARDS: SHORT ANSWER & MULTIPLE CHOICE

Name: _____

Sort Biomes

1. What is a biome?

A biome is a large area made of many ecosystems. Biomes have similar climate and organisms.

2. Describe the weather, plants and animals of the savanna biome.

Savannas are warm year round. There is rain 6-8 months, followed by dry weather. Plants need to survive long dry months. Animals graze on grasses and shrubs. They need to be able to deal with the hot, dry months as well.

3. Describe the weather, plants and animals of the temperate forest biome.

Temperate forests are rainy, very cold in the winter, and very hot in the summer. There are many trees, as well as smaller plants. There are many animals of all types. These animals are able to cope with the cold winters and hot summers.

4. Describe the weather, plants and animals of the freshwater biome.

The temperature of the water changes with the changing seasons. There are both plants and algae in this biome, but few trees. There are animals of all types that live in this biome.

5. Describe the organisms in the ocean biome.

There are few plants but algae is abundant. There are many types of animals that live in oceans. Mammals need to be able to stay warm in cold water.

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Sort
Temperate Forest

Ocean

Sort
Freshwater

Sort
Savanna

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Sort Biomes

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- Collect nuts in the summer to have food in the winter

Sort Biomes

YOU WILL LOVE THIS BECAUSE



Makes Growth Visual

Students classify plants and animals by habitat, making biome characteristics and organism-environment relationships easier to understand.



Reinforces Science Standards

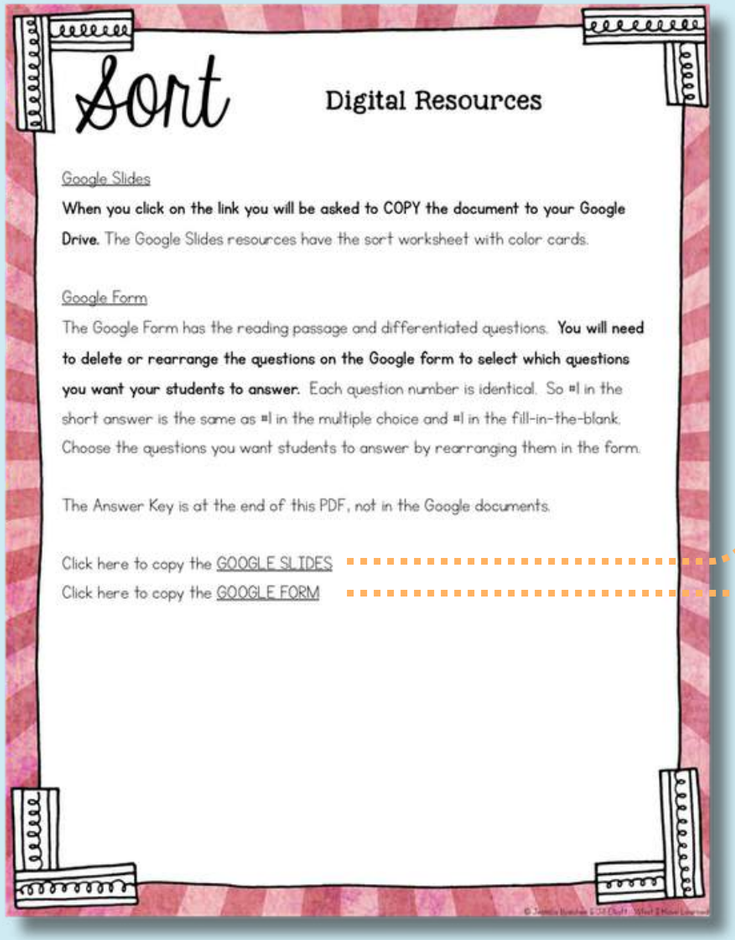
Supports NGSS 3-LS2.C and 3-LS4.D, connecting students with ecosystem interactions and how environmental conditions affect organisms.

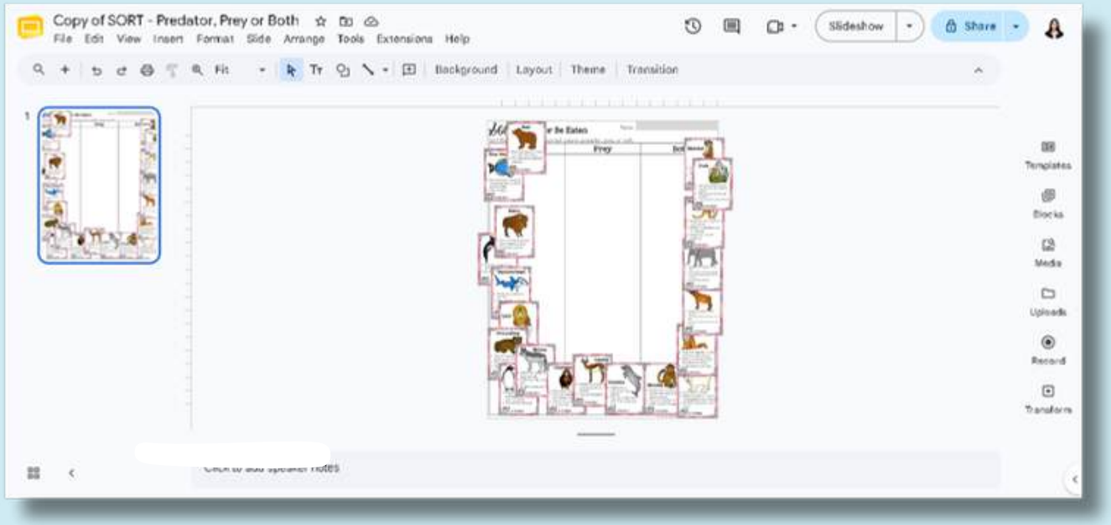


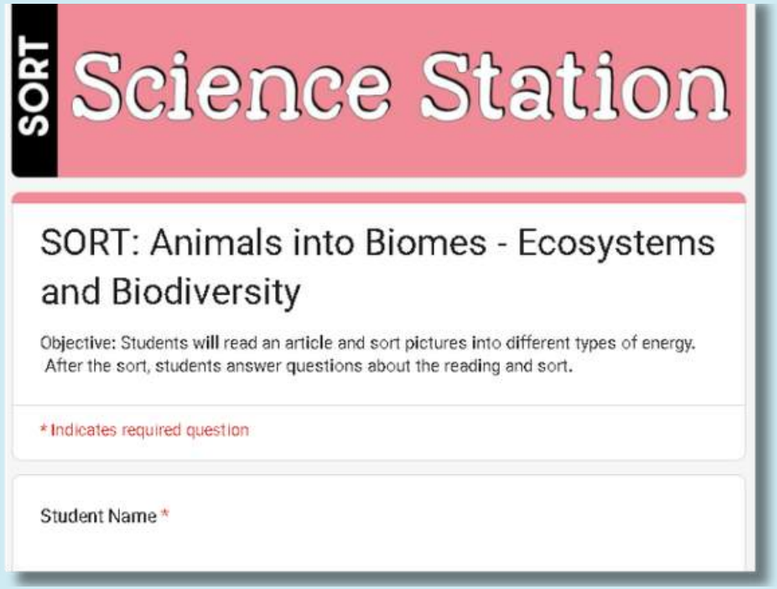
Digital + Print Options

Versatile resource with worksheets, Google Slides, and a website version—great for classroom, homework, centers, or blended learning.

DIGITAL VERSIONS







DIGITAL VERSIONS

- ✔ Google Sheet with Activity & Directions
- ✔ Google Form with Reading & Questions

Answer keys provided

TEACHERS LOVE IT!

My students enjoyed sorting and reviewing the animals of the ecosystems we had learned about.

Going Fourth in Literacy

Fun activity for my class during our unit on biomes and ecosystems. Thank you! They were very engaged.

Marybeth H.





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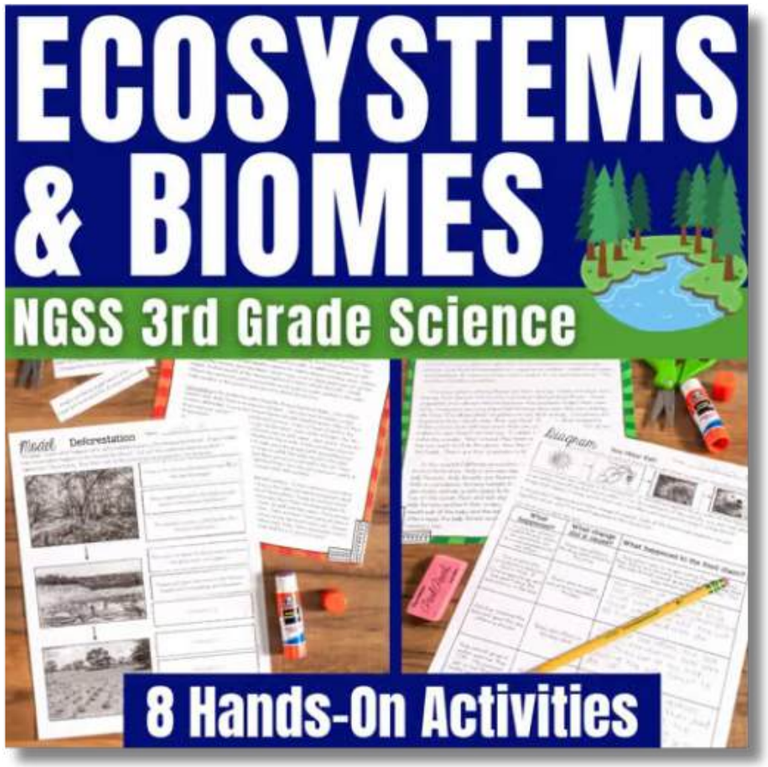
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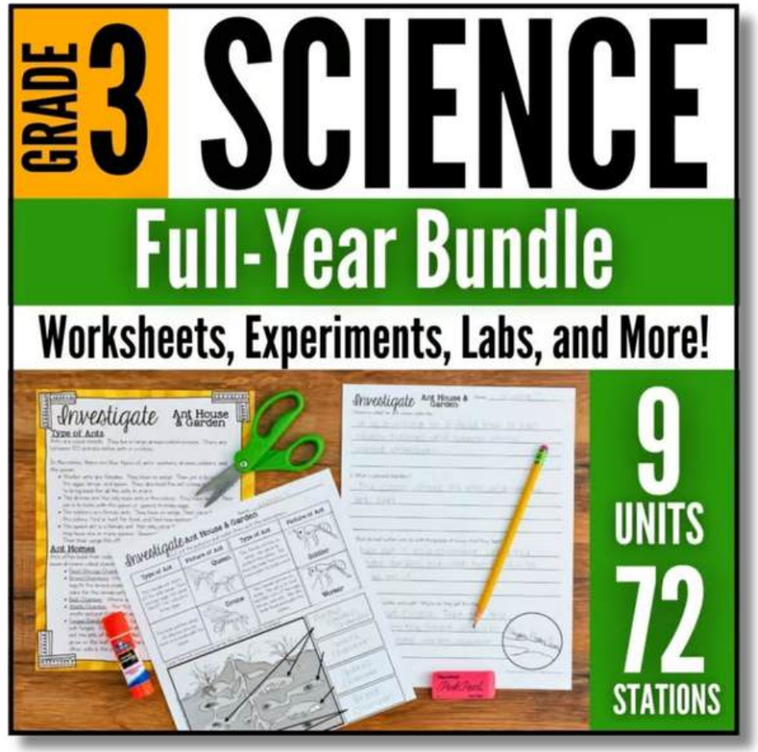
GOOD VALUE



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BEST VALUE



SEE THE BUNDLE

My passion is making learning accessible to all students.
I love scaffolding learning, breaking down the concepts and building them up so that students can see the connections.
I love figuring out the small components that build up to the big ideas and helping students see it all.





What I have LEARNED