

North America Biome Readers
New Edition
Guide to Presentation



North America Biome Readers - New Edition

(suitable for children 3 to 9 years of age)

Contents of North America Biome Readers:

- 9 *North America Biome Readers* tyvek booklets (with 6 picture and 6 text cards for each booklet) with wooden storage box
- pdf masters for making copies of the booklets are available in the A - Z pdf library on our website: wasecabiomes.org

Additional Related Products:

(sold separately)

- Waseca Reading Program
- North America Biome Cards

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Introduction

The Biome Readers for the Continents provide an opportunity for emergent readers to practice reading with content of their studies!

They are color-coded to denote increasing difficulty as a succession of phonetic elements are introduced. The sequence follows that of the Orton Gillingham program and the color-coding corresponds to the Waseca Reading Program:

<i>red</i>	focuses on three-letter phonetic words and isolates short vowel sounds.
<i>orange</i>	focuses on blends: common beginning blends such as s , l , and r blends; ending blends; and words with both beginning and ending blends.
<i>yellow</i>	introduces consonant digraphs like sh , ch , th , and tch .
<i>green</i>	explores words ending with ng and nk .
<i>aqua</i>	focuses on the silent e rule as applied to each vowel.
<i>blue</i>	explores different phonograms used to make each long vowel sound.
<i>purple</i>	introduces various diphthongs, such as r-controlled vowels and oy , ow , aw .
<i>pink</i>	focuses on combinations that produce silent letters like wh , mb , kn , and gh .
<i>gold</i>	explores less common phonetic rules, including spelling variations for the same sounds and hard and soft consonants.

The Biome Readers for the Continents are designed to practice reading and develop reading comprehension by encouraging the child to read the same passage a minimum of three times, thereby acquiring fluency and confidence! They can be used in conjunction with their geography curriculum and our Biome Cards for the Continents. These North America Biome Readers will help children further explore the biomes, animals, plants, and people covered in the Biome Cards for the Continents for North America and their North America continent studies.

You can determine the appropriate level for the emergent reader or, if the Waseca Reading Program is being used, the child will know the color level to which they can read. If they are on the green cards, they can read all of the books up to and including the green!

Presentation

You will need: North America Biome Readers booklets, North America Biome Readers picture cards, North America Biome Readers text cards, print out of the masters for each booklet, colored pens or pencils

Purpose: To provide an opportunity for emergent readers to practice reading with content of their studies.

1. The unillustrated reader booklets are the first part of the North America Biome Readers that should be introduced. Select the color that the child will work with and, after reviewing the text of the booklet, work with any sight words that may be necessary prior to reading the book (words like eats and lives are necessary to convey information about biomes).
2. Have the child read the booklet. These booklets are not illustrated so that the child can focus on phonetically decoding the words and cannot guess the text from the illustrations.
3. Have the child lay out the picture cards for the book. You can talk about the story and what the child remembers of the text as you do so. If there is a storyline, the cards may be put in sequence (they are numbered on the back for control of error).
4. The child reads the text cards (the exact same text as in the booklet) and matches it to the appropriate picture card. Comprehension is required to match these cards and work can be self-checked with the numbers on the backs of each card.
5. Make copies of the booklet from the masters. Cut and staple them so that you can give the child her own copy. Have the child read the booklet and independently illustrate the blank page opposite the text. This is a good check for comprehension and incorporates a third reading of the text for mastery. The book can then be taken home and read to parents for further practice and sharing.

Extensions:

- Use the picture cards to have the child write original text to accompany the images.
- Have the child create a new book about a biome, plant, animal, or person from North America. What type of biome does it live in? How does it get energy? What does it eat? How does it adapt? Write a story about a day in its life. Make this story into a new booklet and set of cards to add to the North America Biome Readers in your classroom.

North America Biome Readers

- Red** — The Red Fox
- Orange** — The Muskrat
- Yellow** — The Jackrabbit
- Green** — The Marsh
- Aqua** — The Whipsnake
- Blue** — The Vines that Choke
- Purple** — The Wild Turkey
- Pink** — The Bighorn Sheep
- Gold** — The Polar Bear

Folio Clips

As of July 2021, the embossed icon on each reader folio was replaced with a brass icon clip for that continent. The nine folios included with each reader storage box come with a set of icon clips for you to add to the spine of each folio. Ten clips are included (just in case you need an extra). These clips slide snugly over the top of each folio.

How to use them?

1. Open the folio so that it lays flat.
2. Place an index card (or a paper of similar thickness) over the outside of the spine up to its edge.
3. Fit the clip over the width of the spine and the index card.
4. Slide the clip gently down into place and remove the index card.
5. Finally, remove the protective plastic coating from the front of the clip.