

# Project glossary

**aquatic**

All the habitats on Earth that are covered with water.

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**biodiversity**

The number and types of plants and animals that exist in a particular area.

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**biome**

A large ecosystem that has characteristic features, such as the climate and landscape. Example biomes include desert, grassland, forest, tundra and aquatic.

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**climate**

The general weather conditions found in a place over a period of time.

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**climate zone**

An area with a distinct climate.

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**contour line**

A line on a map joining points of equal height above sea level.

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**desert**

A large, dry area where there is little rain and few plants.

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**ecosystem**

A community of living organisms and their environments that interact with each other.

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**equator**

A line of latitude around the middle of the Earth at 0°.

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**forest**

A large area of land covered with trees and plants.

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**grassland**

A large open area of land covered with grass.

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**Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)**

The time at the Prime Meridian that runs through Greenwich, London, on which world time zones are based.

**hamlet**

A small settlement, usually without a church.

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**line of latitude**

An imaginary line that runs horizontally around the Earth, measured in degrees north (°N) or south (°S) of the equator.

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**line of longitude**

An imaginary line that runs vertically from the North Pole to the South Pole, measured in degrees east (°E) or west (°W) of the Prime Meridian.

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**motorway**

A main road with multiple lanes for fast travel over long distances.

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**Ordnance Survey map**

A detailed map showing the landscape’s human and physical features.

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**population density**

The number of individuals living in each unit of area.

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**Prime Meridian**

The line of longitude that passes through Greenwich in England and marks 0° longitude, from which all other longitudes are measured.

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**savannah**

An area of grassy plain in a tropical area with few trees.

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**scale**

The ratio of a distance on the map to the corresponding distance on the ground.

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**settlement**

A place where people live permanently.

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**temperate**

A climate with warm summers and cool, snowy winters.

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**time zone**

One of 24 equal parts into which the world is divided, each one an hour in front or behind the ones to either side.

**tropical**

An area that is hot and wet with a constant temperature, and a wet season and dry season.

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**Tropic of Cancer**

A line of latitude that runs around the Earth at 23.5°N of the equator.

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**Tropic of Capricorn**

A line of latitude that runs around the Earth at 23.5°S of the equator.

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**tundra**

An area of land where it is too cold for trees to grow and the ground below the surface is permanently frozen.

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**vegetation belt**

An area where certain species of plant grow.