## POEM...If the Earth Were Only a Few Feet in Diameter



If the Earth were only a few feet in diameter



"If the Earth were only a few feet in diameter, floating a few feet above a field somewhere, people would come from everywhere to marvel at it. People would walk around it marveling at its big pools of water, its little pools, and the water flowing between the pools. People would marvel at the bumps on it, and the holes in it, and they would marvel at the very thin layer of gas surrounding it and the water suspended in the gas. The people would marvel at all the creatures walking around the surface of the ball and at the creatures in the water. The people would declare it sacred because it was the only one, and they would protect it so that it would not be hurt. The ball would be the greatest wonder known, and people would come to pray to it, to be healed, to gain knowledge, to know beauty, and to wonder how it could be. People would love it and defend it with their lives because they would somehow know that their lives, their own roundness, could be nothing without it. If the Earth were only a few feet in diameter..."

- Joe Miller

## To understand a world biome, you need to know:

- What the climate of the region is like.
- Where each biome is found and and what its geography is like.
- The special adaptations of the vegetation.
- The types of animals found in the biome and their physical and behavioral adaptations to their environment.



## **EXERCISE:**

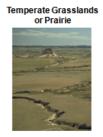
Can you identify the biome for each picture?

(ERASE to reveal)



Northern Coniferous Forest or Taiga





Desert





Tropical Rain Forest

## Coniferous Forest vs Deciduous Forest

**Deciduous** = the dropping of a part that is no longer needed, in this case leaves

**Coniferous** = bearing pinecones, most of which are evergreen

**Evergreen** = retaining leaves year round, therefore remaining "forever green"

**Broadleaf** = a thin, broad leaf structure with a good deal of surface area

**Needle** = a thin, long modified leaf typical of conifers

**Hardwood** = another commonly used word for deciduous, broadleaf trees

**Softwood** = usually refers to coniferous trees