

AFRICA AT A GLANCE

DIRECTIONS: Use the map of the world and special purpose maps of Africa to complete this worksheet.

1. Use a colored pencil to highlight the areas where Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda, South Africa, Botswana and Senegal are located on all of your maps.
2. Carefully color the desert areas on the rainfall and vegetation maps. Do the same with the savanna areas.
3. What type of vegetation is found in areas of high rainfall (i.e., over 60 inches per year)? Why? Low rainfall? Why?
4. Put a check next to the true statements:
 The largest desert areas are found in northern Africa.
 Areas of tropical rainforest lie close to the equator.
5. Use the maps to make a list of 8-10 facts about Ghana, Uganda, South Africa, Rwanda, Botswana and Senegal. Be able to support your information with evidence.

FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

Locate as many special purpose maps of Africa (or West Africa) as you can. Use these maps to add to your list of facts about Ghana, Uganda, Rwanda, South Africa, Botswana and Senegal.

VEGETATION PATTERNS

Scrub Woodland and Thorn Scrub:

Encountered in the rocky areas of the desert. Thorny low lying bushes and trees are extremely scattered.

Temperate Low Altitude Desert:

This corresponds roughly to true desert; very low rainfall and very little plant life.

Savanna:

An area with distinct wet-dry seasons and consistently high temperatures. Soil is light and supports scattered grass and small trees.

Savanna Forest:

An area with scattered "thin" forest and coarse grass.

Tropical Rain Forest:

No marked dry season; rain falls 10-12 months each year. Forest is lush and never without foliage. Trees are sometimes over 150 feet high.

Temperate Rain Forest:

This rain forest-like vegetation is usually found in highland areas where temperatures are cooler. Rainfall is less than in tropical areas.

Prairie Grassland:

Tall deeply rooted grasses are found in areas with over 20 inches of rainfall. Short, less firmly rooted grasses are found in other areas.

Temperate Mixed Broadleaf Forest and Plain:

Like the Mediterranean climatic zone, vegetation is similar to that of southern Europe.