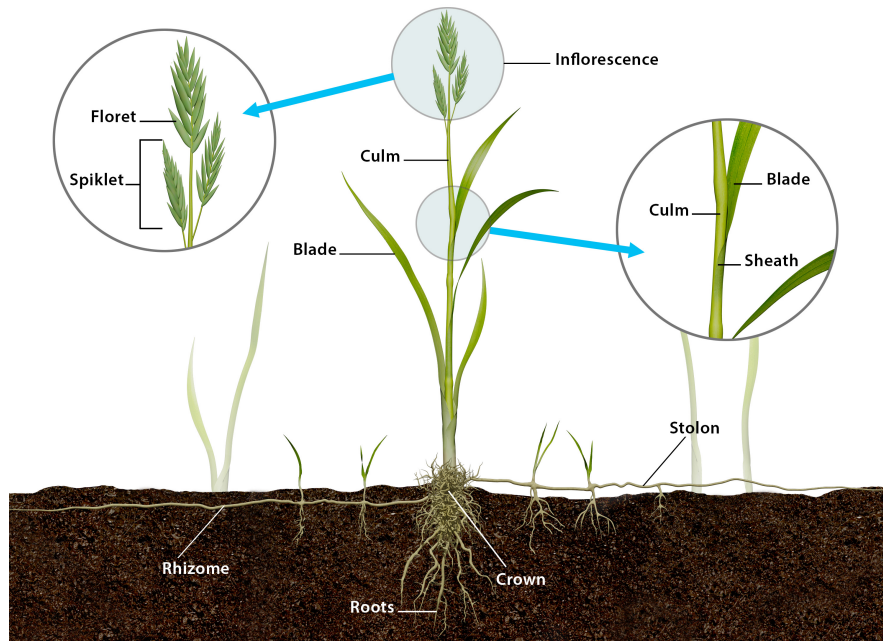


Chapter 1 Main Ideas

- Describe and identify the structure of a grass plant.
- Grasslands are far more diverse than they may look.
- Grasslands around the world differ from each other dramatically.



Facts to Know

- Where can you find grasslands?
- What are some of the names for grasslands?
- How much land do grasslands cover?
- What allows grasses to grow so tall?

Things to Think About

- Why is fire important to the grassland biome?

Vocabulary Words

Grassland, Perennial, Decomposition, Crown, Culm, Sheath, Blade, Rhizome, Stolon, Floret, Spikelet, Inflorescence

Chapter 2 Main Ideas

- Tropical grasslands are known as savannas and are dotted by trees.
- The trees and grasses are designed to survive fire.
- African, Australian and South American savannas are very different from each other.



Facts to Know

- What is the climate like in the savanna?
- What are the differences between African, Australian and South American savannas?
- Why is the soil in the savanna poor?

Things to Think About

- What part do termites play in savannas?
- How do trees in the savanna survive fires?

Vocabulary Words

Grazer, Browser, Carnivore, Herbivore, Marsupials, Symbiosis, Savanna, Porous, Succulent, Aerate, Cerrado, Drought

Chapter 3 Main Ideas

- Temperate grasslands are ideal for agriculture and grazing.
- Temperate grasslands are known as steppes, prairies, velds, pampas and puszta. They are all a little different from each other.



Facts to Know

- What is the climate like in the temperate grasslands compared to tropical grasslands?
- How can drought affect temperate grasslands?
- What makes steppes unsuitable for farming?
- Where are all the different temperate grasslands areas located and what makes them different from each other?
- How has milkweed adapted to its environment?

Things to Think About

- Why is most of the North American prairie now farmland?

Vocabulary Words

Veld, Pampas, Prairie, Steppe, Puszta, Leaching, Herbaceous, Fertile, Succulent, Temperate Grassland

Chapter 4 Main Ideas

- Climate change and overgrazing are threatening many grassland areas.
- Threats to grasslands directly affect humanity because a large percentage of our food is grown in grassland areas.



Facts to Know

- How does overgrazing affect grasses?
- Why is biofuel use increasing?
- What are some of the perceived risks of GMO's?
- What are some of the ways food is wasted?
- Why are manmade fires more harmful than natural fires?

Things to Think About

- Do you think we should use cropland for biofuels? Why?

Vocabulary Words

Biofuels, GMO's, Fragmentation, Hand Pollination