

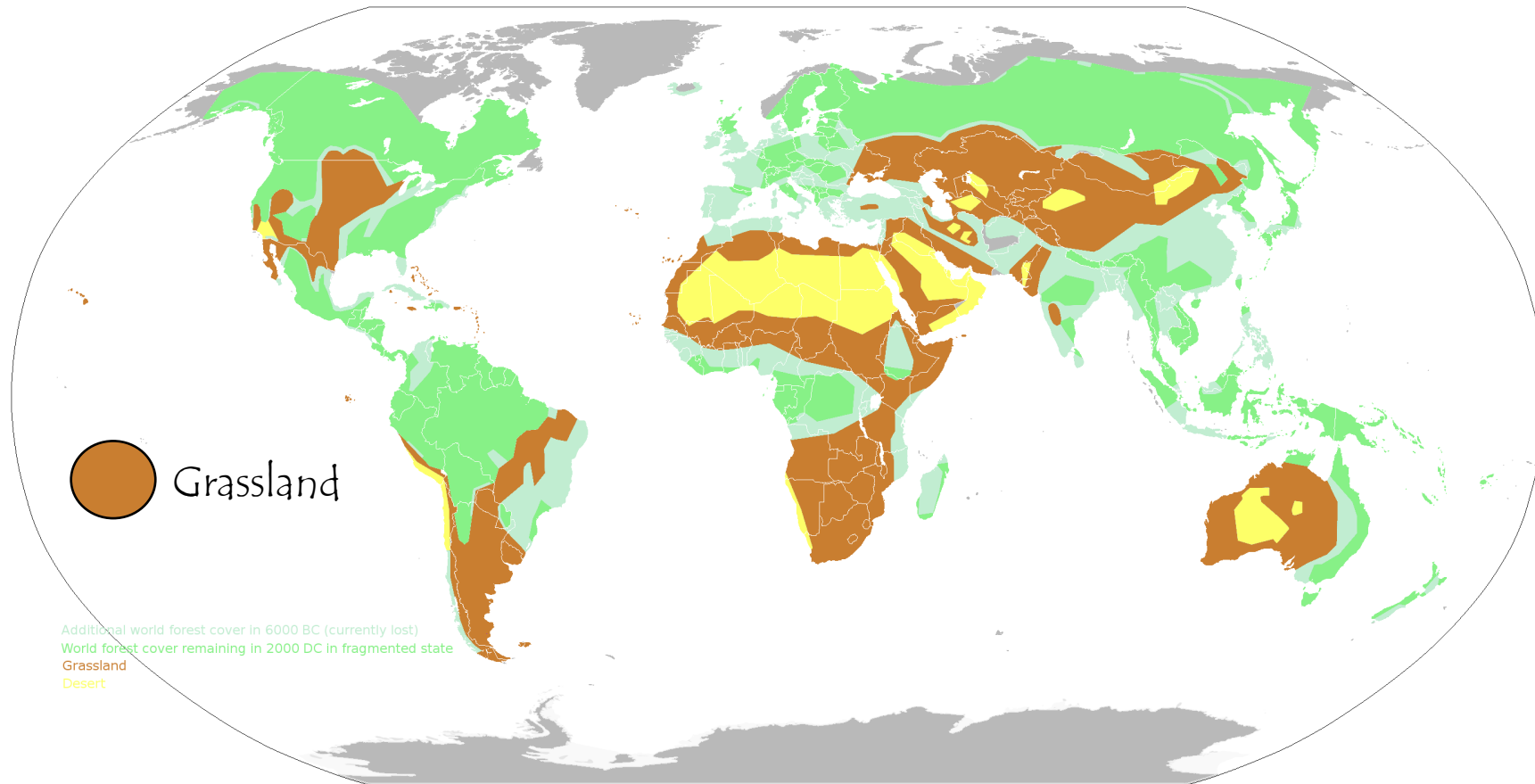
THE GRASSLANDS

There are grasslands growing on every continent, except Antarctica. Grasslands have many names like prairies, savannas, and rangelands.

Grasslands are described as a large open area with natural vegetation or tall growing grasses. There are very few trees and little rainfall making it very dry there. Tall grasses and plants that develop here are able to be nibbled on and continue growing. This provides food for many grazing mammals like antelopes, bison, and zebras. Many animals have adapted well to this type of environment such as wild cats, deer, bison, birds, reptiles, and many different insects.

Grassland: Location

Grasslands are located between deserts and forests: Central North America, Uruguay, Argentina, southern Russia, and Mongolia.



LOCATION

Grasslands are areas where tall grass grows. The land is usually too dry to be a forest and too wet to be a desert. Grasslands are sometimes called different names in different parts of the world. In Africa they are called Savannas, Prairies in North America and Rangelands in Australia. Every continent except Antarctica contains Grasslands.



Grassland: Weather

Summers are hot and winters are cold in grasslands. It usually rains in the late spring and early summer but not enough rain to grow tall trees and make a forest.



CLIMATE

Summers are usually hot and winters are cold. Because rainfall is low throughout the year, many trees are not found in a Grassland.



Grassland: Plants

Grasslands are ruled by grass. You will not find many trees and shrubs in this biome. Grasslands are home to many different kinds of grass including purple needle grass, wild oats, foxtail, ryegrass, and buffalo grass.



Oats



Foxtail



Buffalo Grass

Grassland: Animals

The main vertebrates you will find in grasslands are herbivores and plant eating grazers called ungulates. Some animals you can find in this biome include birds, gophers, antelope, prairie dogs, coyotes, bison, and insects.



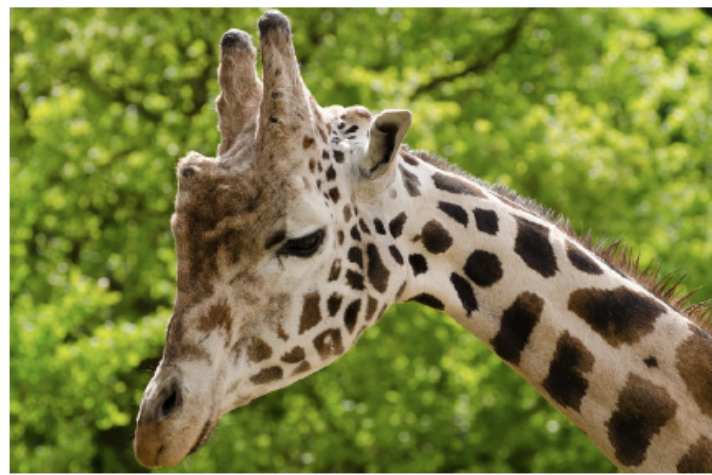
Gophers



Antelope



Bison



LIFE

This environment is home to many different plants and animals. Plants are usually a type of strong grass that grows quickly all year. Many of the animals that live in a Grassland eat the grass and graze the land. Some animals include, buffalo, cougars, deer, elephants, giraffe, and kangaroos!