

Video summary	Before watching the video	During the video
<p><b>Investigating the characteristics of the Mediterranean biome in Spain.</b></p> <p>Presenter Ferne Corrigan locates the biome on a world map and describes its climate. She identifies plant species found in the biome and how their root systems have adapted to the short supply of water.</p> <p>Ferne then explores the cork oak tree and how farming and tourism are interdependent. She explains cork oak farming and the adaptations made by the tree to enable it survive the frequent forest fires.</p> <p>The animals studied include geckos - another example of adaptation - while the human geography explains why Mediterranean villages are often found on hillsides.</p>	<p>Look at a map of the distribution of the Mediterranean biome. Ask students to look for a pattern in the distribution and discuss why the Mediterranean biome is located where it is.</p> <p>Ask students about the types of animals that they think might live in the Mediterranean biome and what type of climate they live in. Students could make predictions, which they could then add to once they have watched the film.</p> <p>Introduce key terms such as:</p> <p><b>Prevailing winds:</b> The most common wind direction.</p> <p><b>Drought:</b> A prolonged period without rainfall.</p> <p><b>Interdependence:</b> When two or more things are reliant on each other.</p> <p><b>Scrublands:</b> Land consisting of scrub vegetation such as lavender, thyme, juniper and rosemary.</p>	<p>You may wish to stop at relevant points during this short film to pose questions and check understanding or wait until the end. Useful questions might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where is the Mediterranean biome found?</li> <li>• What is the climate like in the Mediterranean biome?</li> <li>• What types of plants grow in the Mediterranean biome?</li> <li>• What adaptations do the plants have in the Mediterranean biome?</li> <li>• How do humans use the Mediterranean biome?</li> <li>• How is the gecko adapted to living in the Mediterranean biome?</li> <li>• Why do people live on the hillsides?</li> <li>• What is a siesta?</li> </ul>
<p><b>After watching</b></p>		

Ask students to look back at their predictions, were they right about what they thought they would see in the Mediterranean biome? Students could complete a spider diagram to note down the basic information about each of the Mediterranean characteristics: vegetation, climate, animals and human uses.

Give students an image of the cork oak tree and ask them to annotate it with the adaptation, for example the thick bark helping to protect it from wildfires. Discuss with students how those adaptations enable the trees to survive in the climate of the Mediterranean biome. Students could carry out the same activity with the gecko. This could then lead students to designing their own plant or animal that could live in the Mediterranean biome.

Discuss the human uses of the Mediterranean biome. Ask students whether they think those uses are good for the biome or if they will cause issues. Students could then rank the uses from most damaging to least damaging using their opinion and then writing up their decision.

Curriculum notes	Where next?	Links
<p>This clip will be relevant for teaching Geography at KS3 and GCSE.</p> <p>This topic appears in OCR, Edexcel, AQA, WJEC KS4/GCSE in England and Wales, CCEA GCSE in Northern Ireland and SOA National 4/5 in Scotland.</p>	<p>Compare the Mediterranean biome to a contrasting biome such as the tundra or the boreal forest.</p> <p>Students could compare:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animals</li> <li>• Vegetation</li> <li>• Climate</li> <li>• Human uses</li> </ul> <p>A case study could be built for the Mediterranean biome using a real-life example. This could form a research task which students could then present to the class.</p>	<p>Distribution of ecosystems:  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/ztcch39/revision/3">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/ztcch39/revision/3</a></p> <p>Climate:  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zqqvf82#z4vh6g8">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zqqvf82#z4vh6g8</a></p>