

Video summary	Before watching the video	During the video
<p><b>Investigating the plants and animals of temperate grasslands.</b></p> <p>The temperate grasslands biome is located on a world map and the climate of the biome described. Presenter Ferne Corrigan then explores the adaptations made by bumblebees, owls, prairie dogs and coyotes.</p> <p>She also explains how plants have adapted to the grasslands, including milkweed and bluestem, and how these plants are essential to maintaining the grassland ecosystem.</p>	<p>Look at a map of the distribution of temperate savannas. Ask students to look for a pattern in the distribution and discuss why the temperate savanna is located where it is.</p> <p>Ask students about the types of animals that they think might live in the temperate savanna 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:  <b>Prairie:</b> A temperate grassland in North America.  <b>Hibernate:</b> Spending the winter in dormant state. Some animals hibernate through the winter.  <b>Commercial crops:</b> Crops grown for sale, such as wheat and maize.</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 are temperate savannas found?</li> <li>• What type of climate does the temperate savanna have?</li> <li>• Why are there fires in the temperate savanna?</li> <li>• What types of animals live in the temperate savanna?</li> <li>• How do the bumblebees survive?</li> <li>• How do the coyotes survive in the temperate savanna?</li> <li>• What types of plants can be found in the temperate savanna?</li> <li>• How are the plants adapted to living in the temperate savanna?</li> <li>• How do humans use the temperate savanna?</li> </ul>
<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 temperate savanna? Students could complete a spider diagram to note down the basic information about each of the temperate savanna characteristics: vegetation, climate, animals and human uses.</p> <p>Give students an image of the bluestem or the milkweed and ask them to annotate it with their adaptations. Discuss with students how those adaptations enable the plants to survive in the climate of the temperate savanna. Students could also research other vegetation found in the temperate savannas and make a comparison between the what they saw in the film and what they have researched.</p>		

Discuss the human uses of the temperate savanna. Ask students whether they think those uses are good for the temperate savanna 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 temperate savanna 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>Students could also compare the temperate and tropical savannas.</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>