

Activities

Topic: Free

Use Google Translate in case you don't understand something.

1. The Cerrado

Instructions:

We will visit three different websites and a map for this activity.

First, go to the Science Direct website using the link to the article “The Brazilian Cerrado Vegetation and Threats to its Biodiversity”

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/natural-disasters-weather/>



You will have access to the abstract, which is a summary of what the article is about. Many scientific publications are free of charge, but many are paid. In order to know whether we want to read the entire article, we always read the abstract first.

We will not read the entire article. Read the abstract, and then answer the following questions.

- a) Was there a lot of information in the abstract? Mention something which caught your attention.**

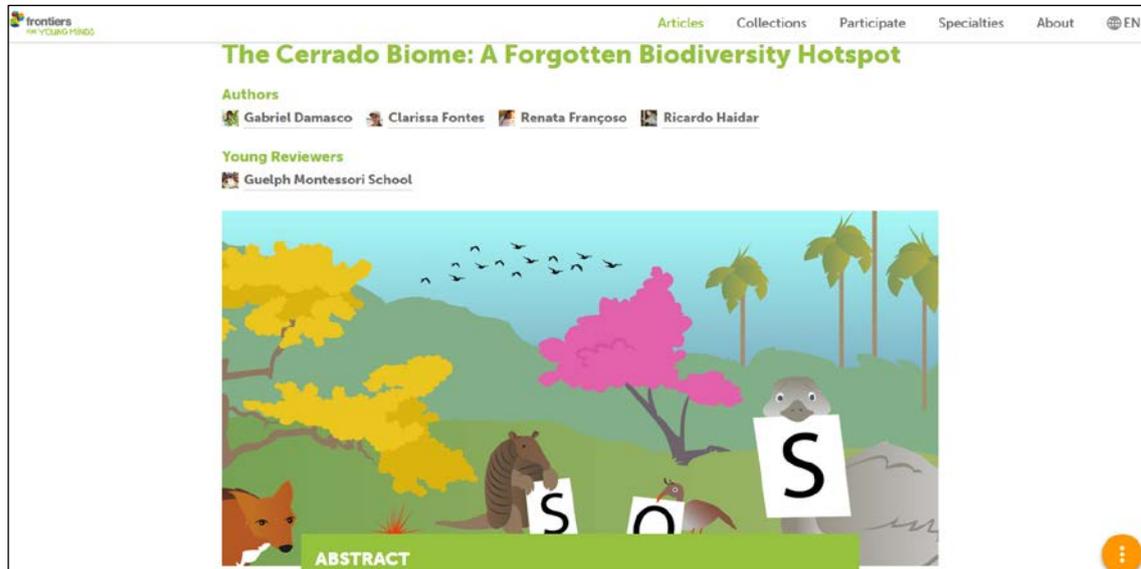
There was...

- b) When is this article from?**

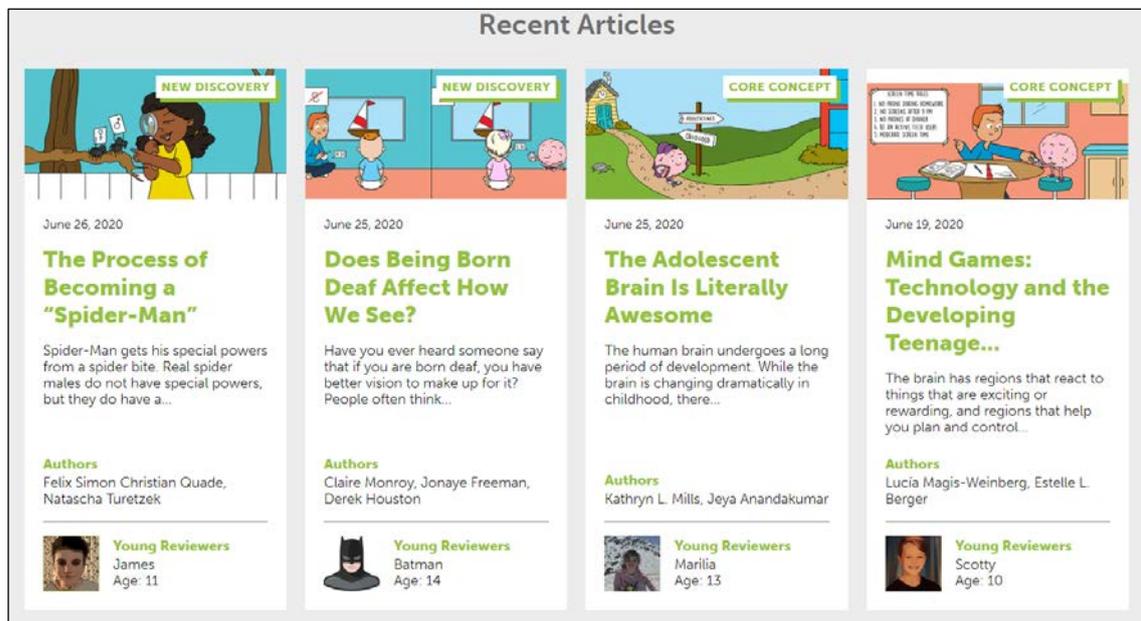
The article is from...

Second, go to the website *Frontiers for Young Minds* using the link to the article “*The Cerrado Biome: A Forgotten Biodiversity Hotspot*”.

<https://kids.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/frym.2018.00022>



Frontier for Young Minds is “an open access scientific journal written by scientists and reviewed by a board of kids and teens”. There’s lots of amazing articles here, and you might want to explore the website later.



For now, read the article about the Cerrado. It has interesting images and pictures, and plenty of information about this fitophisionomy that is so essential for the lives of Brazilian people and biodiversity. Then, answer the questions.

c) **How many plant species are there in the Cerrado? How many only exist there?**

There are...

d) **What are the names in English of some animals endemic to the Cerrado? You can find them in the description of Figure 2.**

There is...

e) **Many fossils of which two kinds of giant animals are mentioned to have been found in the Cerrado?**

The fossils of...

f) **How many bird species are there in the Cerrado? How many are endemic?**

There are...

g) **What is an aquifer, and why is the Cerrado considered a “water fountain” in South America?**

An aquifer is...

h) **How did plants adapt to the recurring fires?**

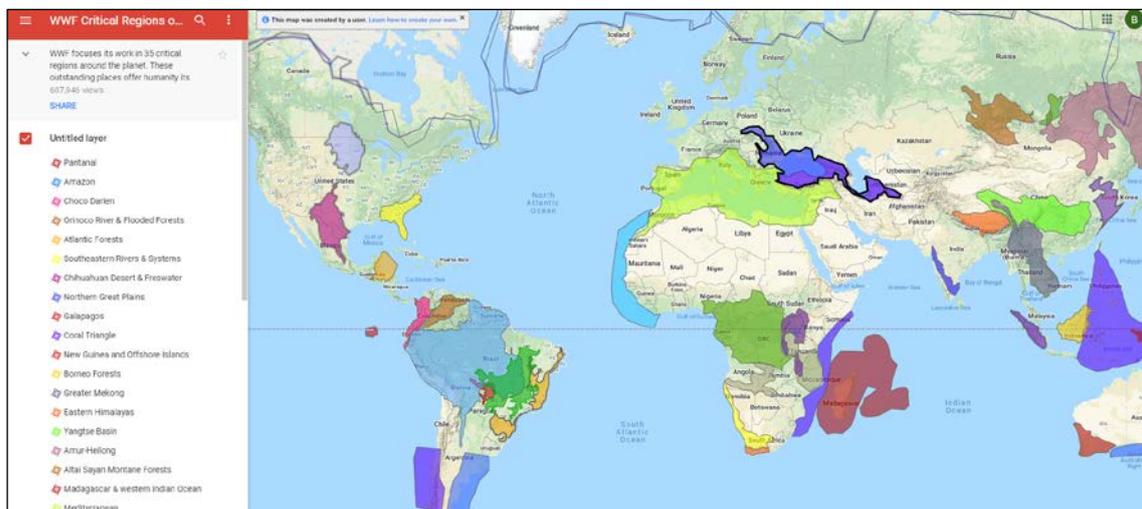
They have developed...

Third, go to the website WWF using the link to the section “Cerrado, Brazil”.

https://wwf.panda.org/knowledge_hub/where_we_work/cerrado/

Although there’s some information here, we’re more interested in a map they have about the areas where the WWF acts around the world. You can find it by scrolling down, or you can use this one:

<http://maps.google.com.au/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&oe=UTF8&num=200&start=42&t=p&msa=0&msid=118035287187984769516.00046a3e08a7e9c2ef46f&ll=-16.299051,-47.988281&spn=41.330072,74.707031&z=3&source=embed>



This map shows the critical areas in the world where the WWF has projects. Take a look at some of these biomes, and look up one of them on Google. Then, answer the questions.

i) Which area did you look up? What did you find interesting about it?

I looked up...

j) Did you know there were so many critical areas in the world? Had you ever heard about any of these areas before? Which?

I...

k) When you zoom into the Northern Great Plains (greyish-blue area on the US-Canada border), what do you find predominantly in the area, besides cities and roads?

There are many...

