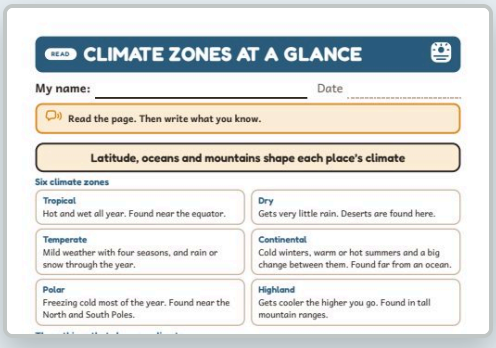
6TH–8TH GRADE · EARTH SCIENCE

MAPS + GRAPHS

CLIMATE ZONES WORKSHEETS

Label lines of latitude on a world map, place eight regions in their zones, read climate graphs, match, fill in, compare in a Venn diagram, sort by cutting and pasting, and write short answers. Answer keys, a tracker and a family page. Print, or type your answers. PDF.


READ CLIMATE ZONES AT A GLANCE

My name: _____ Date

Read the page. Then write what you know.

Latitude, oceans and mountains shape each place's climate

Six climate zones

Tropical — Hot and wet all year. Found near the equator.

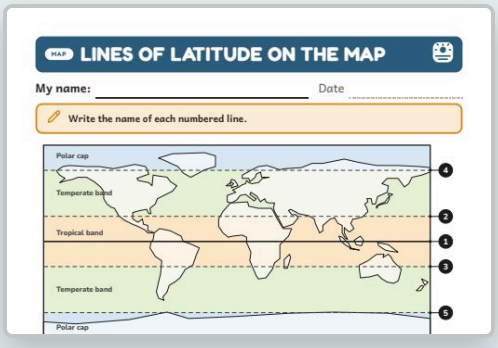
Dry — Gets very little rain. Deserts are found here.

Temperate — Mild weather with four seasons, and rain or snow through the year.

Continental — Cold winters, warm or hot summers and a big change between them. Found far from an ocean.

Polar — Freezing cold most of the year. Found near the North and South Poles.

Highland — Gets cooler the higher you go. Found in tall mountain ranges.


MAP LINES OF LATITUDE ON THE MAP

My name: _____ Date

Write the name of each numbered line.

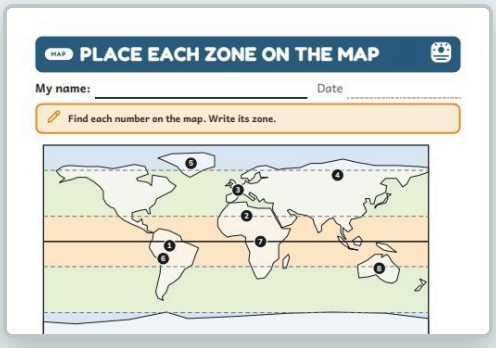
Polar cap

Temperate band

Tropical band

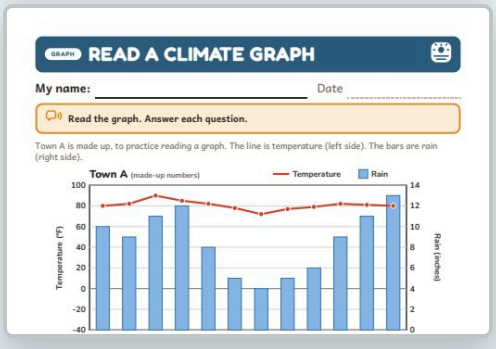
Temperate band

Polar cap


MAP PLACE EACH ZONE ON THE MAP

My name: _____ Date

Find each number on the map. Write its zone.


GRAPH READ A CLIMATE GRAPH

My name: _____ Date

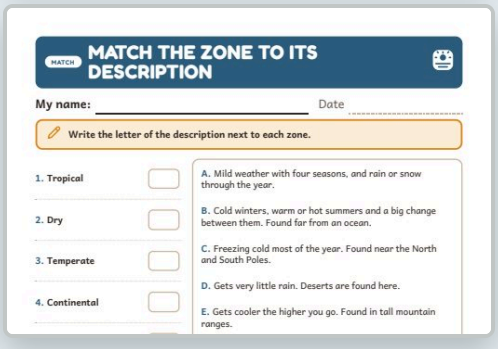
Read the graph. Answer each question.

Town A is made up, to practice reading a graph. The line is temperature (left side). The bars are rain (right side).

Town A (made-up numbers) — Temperature — Rain

Temperature (°F)

Rain (inches)


MATCH MATCH THE ZONE TO ITS DESCRIPTION

My name: _____ Date

Write the letter of the description next to each zone.

1. Tropical
2. Dry
3. Temperate
4. Continental

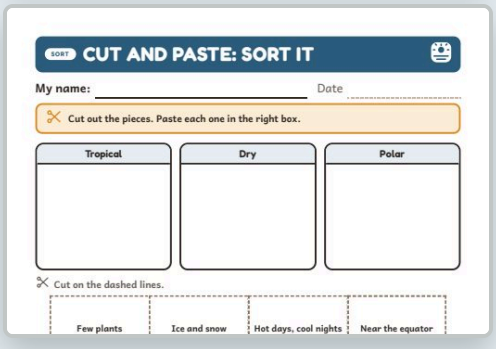
A. Mild weather with four seasons, and rain or snow through the year.

B. Cold winters, warm or hot summers and a big change between them. Found far from an ocean.

C. Freezing cold most of the year. Found near the North and South Poles.

D. Gets very little rain. Deserts are found here.

E. Gets cooler the higher you go. Found in tall mountain ranges.


SORT CUT AND PASTE: SORT IT

My name: _____ Date

Cut out the pieces. Paste each one in the right box.

Tropical | Dry | Polar

Cut on the dashed lines.

Few plants | Ice and snow | Hot days, cool nights | Near the equator

28 Pages | **14 Page Types** | **92 Items** | **2 Answer Keys**

BRIGHT PATH SPED

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PREVIEW

READ CLIMATE ZONES AT A GLANCE

My name: _____ Date .....

Read the page. Then write what you know.

Latitude, oceans and mountains shape each place's climate

Six climate zones

Tropical
Hot and wet all year. Found near the equator.

Dry
Gets very little rain. Deserts are found here.

Temperate
Mild weather with four seasons, and rain or snow through the year.

Continental
Cold winters, warm or hot summers and a big change between them. Found far from an ocean.

Polar
Freezing cold most of the year. Found near the North and South Poles.

Highland
Gets cooler the higher you go. Found in tall mountain ranges.

Three things that change a climate

Latitude
Near the equator the sun's rays hit straight on and it is warm. Near the poles they hit at a slant and it is cold.

Oceans
Ocean water warms and cools slowly, so places near a coast are milder than places far inland.

Mountains
Air gets cooler as you go up. A tall mountain can be cold even near the equator.

Your turn. Write what you know.

The zone where I would most like to visit is _____ because

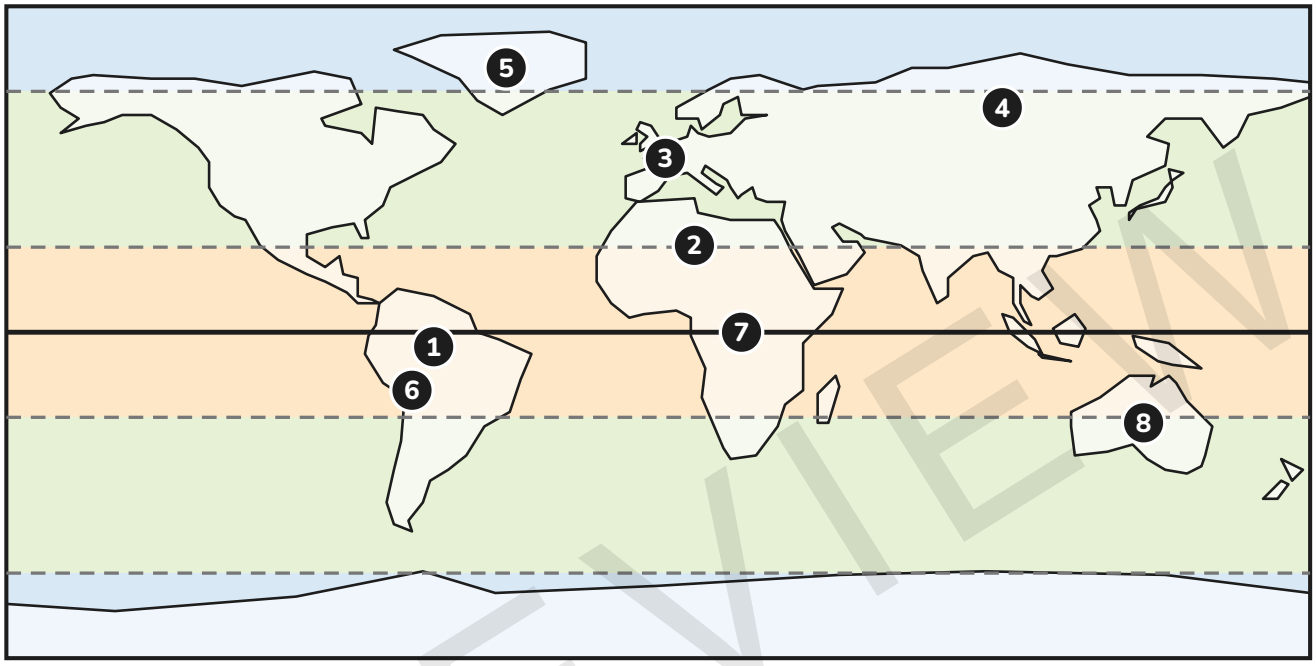
One thing that changes a climate is _____. It matters because

PREVIEW

MAP PLACE EACH ZONE ON THE MAP

My name: _____ Date .....

Find each number on the map. Write its zone.



A world map (simplified, not drawn to scale)

Tropical **Dry** **Temperate** **Continental** **Polar** **Highland**

1. **Amazon Basin, South America**

2. **Sahara Desert, Africa**

3. **Western Europe**

4. **Siberia, Russia**

5. **Greenland ice sheet**

6. **Andes Mountains, South America**

7. **Congo Basin, Africa**

8. **Outback, Australia**

A. Places 1 and 7 are on two different continents. What do they share on the map?

PREVIEW

GRAPH MATCH THE GRAPH TO THE ZONE

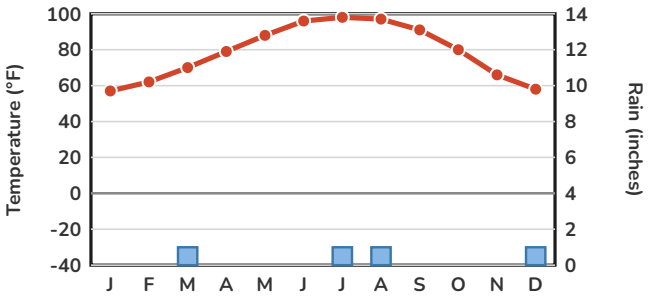
My name: _____ Date .....

Read each graph. Write the zone.

The towns are made up. On every graph the red line is temperature (left side) and the blue bars are rain (right side).

Tropical Dry Temperate Continental Polar Highland

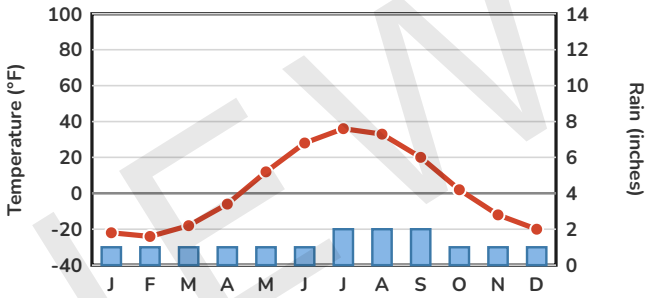
Town B (made-up numbers)



1. Town B is the _____ zone.

One clue from the graph:

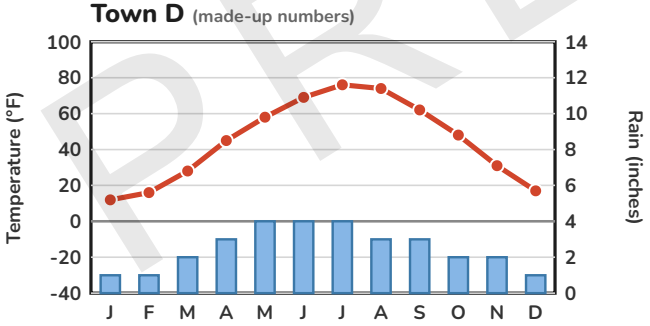
Town C (made-up numbers)



2. Town C is the _____ zone.

One clue from the graph:

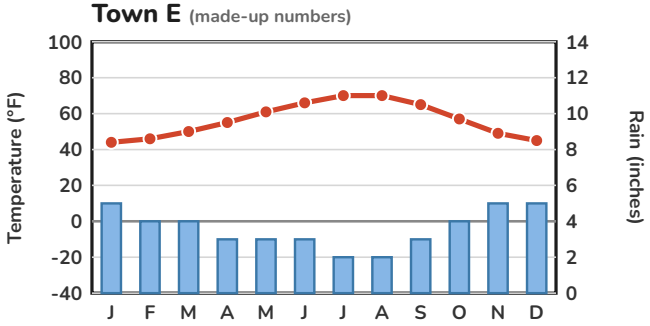
Town D (made-up numbers)



3. Town D is the _____ zone.

One clue from the graph:

Town E (made-up numbers)



4. Town E is the _____ zone.

One clue from the graph:

A. Which town has the biggest change in temperature through the year? Write the town.

PREVIEW

WORDS

FILL IN THE BLANKS

My name: _____ Date .....

Pick a word from the box for each blank.

mountain	**climate graph**	**temperate**	**milder**	**volcano**	**cooler**	**month**	**continental**
forecast	**equator**	**rain**	**poles**				

Climate is the usual weather of a place over many years. Places near the (1) _____ get the most direct sunlight, so they are hot. Places near the (2) _____ get weak, slanted sunlight, so they are freezing. A dry zone gets very little (3) _____, and a (4) _____ zone has mild weather with four seasons. In a (5) _____ zone, the winters are cold and the summers are warm. Places near an ocean usually have a (6) _____ climate than places far inland. Going up a (7) _____, the air gets (8) _____. A (9) _____ shows the temperature and rain for each (10) _____ of the year.

A. Pick one word you used in the paragraph. Write what it means in your own words.

B. Two words in the box are not used. Write them here.

_____ _____

PREVIEW

CIRCLE CIRCLE THE TRUE SENTENCE

My name: _____ Date .....

Circle the true sentence in each pair. Write its letter.

1. Which sentence is true?

A. Places near the poles get more direct sunlight than places near the equator.

B. Places near the equator get more direct sunlight than places near the poles.

A OR B ☐

2. Which sentence is true?

A. The air gets cooler as you go up a mountain.

B. The air gets warmer as you go up a mountain.

A OR B ☐

3. Which sentence is true?

A. A city on a coast usually has colder winters than a city far inland.

B. A city on a coast usually has milder winters than a city far inland.

A OR B ☐

4. Which sentence is true?

A. A desert gets rain every day.

B. A desert gets very little rain.

A OR B ☐

5. Which sentence is true?

A. The polar zone is found near the North and South Poles.

B. The polar zone is found near the equator.

A OR B ☐

6. Which sentence is true?

A. A climate graph shows temperature and rain month by month.

B. A climate graph shows tomorrow's weather.

A OR B ☐

PREVIEW

DECIDE

TRUE OR FALSE? FIX IT

My name: _____ Date .....

Write T or F. If it is false, rewrite it so it is true.

1. The air gets warmer as you go up a mountain. T OR F ☐
If false, write it correctly:
_____

2. The equator is at 90 degrees north latitude. T OR F ☐
If false, write it correctly:
_____

3. The tropical zone is found near the equator. T OR F ☐
If false, write it correctly:
_____

4. A polar zone is hot and wet. T OR F ☐
If false, write it correctly:
_____

5. Places near an ocean usually have milder temperatures than places far inland. T OR F ☐
If false, write it correctly:
_____

6. A continental zone has a small change between summer and winter. T OR F ☐
If false, write it correctly:
_____

7. A dry zone gets very little rain. T OR F ☐
If false, write it correctly:
_____

8. A climate graph can show temperature and rain for each month. T OR F ☐
If false, write it correctly:
_____

PREVIEW

WRITE SHORT ANSWERS

My name: _____ Date .....

Answer each question in complete sentences.

1. What is climate?

2. Where is the tropical zone found, and what is it like?

3. Describe a dry zone.

4. Name two things besides latitude that change a place's climate.

5. What does a climate graph show?

PREVIEW

ANSWER KEY KEY: PAGES 5-10

Pages 5-10: the two map pages, the two graph pages, Match the Zone and Fill In the Blanks. The graph answers are read from the twelve numbers behind each graph.

Lines of Latitude page 5

NO.	LINE
1	Equator
2	Tropic of Cancer
3	Tropic of Capricorn
4	Arctic Circle
5	Antarctic Circle

Question A: the tropical band, between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn. Question B: Sunlight hits it straight on, so it heats the ground more. Near the poles the rays hit at a slant and spread out.

Place Each Zone page 6

NO.	REGION	ZONE
1	Amazon Basin, South America	Tropical
2	Sahara Desert, Africa	Dry
3	Western Europe	Temperate
4	Siberia, Russia	Continental
5	Greenland ice sheet	Polar
6	Andes Mountains, South America	Highland
7	Congo Basin, Africa	Tropical
8	Outback, Australia	Dry

Question A: Both are near the equator (low latitude), so both are tropical.

Read a Climate Graph page 7

NO.	ANSWER
1	Mar
2	Dec
3	4
4	72
5	a little
6	tropical

Question A: Every month is hot (between 70 and 90 degrees F) and rain falls in every month, so the zone is tropical.

Match the Graph page 8

TOWN	ZONE	A CLUE ON THE GRAPH
Town B	Dry	very little rain all year
Town C	Polar	below freezing for many months
Town D	Continental	huge change from winter to summer
Town E	Temperate	mild all year with steady rain

Question A: Town D (a change of 64 degrees F; the others are 41, 60, 26).

Match the Zone page 9

ZONE	LETTER
Tropical	F
Dry	D
Temperate	A
Continental	B
Polar	C
Highland	E

Question A: Any reasonable pair, with a clue (for example temperate and continental: continental has much colder winters).

Fill In the Blanks page 10

NO.	WORD
1	equator
2	poles
3	rain
4	temperate
5	continental
6	milder
7	mountain
8	cooler
9	climate graph
10	month

Question B, unused words: volcano and forecast.

PREVIEW

TRACKER

CLIMATE ZONES TRACKER

STUDENT

TEACHER

UNIT DATES

PAGE	PAGE TYPE	ITEMS	RIGHT	DATE	NOTES
5	Lines of Latitude on the Map	5			
6	Place Each Zone on the Map	8			
7	Read a Climate Graph	6			
8	Match the Graph to the Zone	5			
9	Match the Zone to Its Description	6			
10	Fill In the Blanks	10			
11	Compare in a Venn Diagram	10			
12	Circle the True Sentence	6			
13	Multiple Choice	8			
14	True or False? Fix It	8			
15	Cut and Paste: Sort It	12			
16	Short Answers	5			
17	Explain It	3			

PREVIEW

How to fill this in

Write how many items the student got right and the date. A written answer counts as one item when it makes every point in the key (pages 18 and 19). A blank means not tried yet, never wrong. There are 92 items on the 13 pages above; the reference page (4) is not scored. Filled example: page 24.

STANDARD OR UNIT GOAL (YOUR OWN WORDING)

TEAM NOTE

PROGRESS NOTE

STUDENT | TEAM MEMBER | DATE

Use this page between team meetings to hand off what changed without writing a note from scratch. Everything below is observable, with a blank for the number or the wording your team already uses.

PAGE TYPES COVERED SINCE THE LAST NOTE

PAGE TYPE	COVERED SINCE LAST NOTE (Y/N)	ITEMS RIGHT	STILL BLANK
Lines of Latitude on the Map			
Place Each Zone on the Map			
Read a Climate Graph			
Match the Graph to the Zone			
Match the Zone to Its Description			
Fill In the Blanks			
Compare in a Venn Diagram			
Circle the True Sentence			
Multiple Choice			
True or False? Fix It			
Cut and Paste: Sort It			
Short Answers			
Explain It			

What I saw (observable, not a conclusion)

- Placed ___ of ___ regions in the right zone without a prompt.
- Used the words latitude / tropical / continental correctly in writing on ___ (page).
- Wrote ___ complete sentences on the explanation page on ___ (date).
- Needed a model / a word bank / a sentence starter on ___ of ___ items.

Next step

- Next page type: ___, because ___ (what you saw).
- What to try at home or in another class: ___.
- What to keep doing because it is working: ___.
- Anything for the team meeting to decide: ___ (this page records what happened, never a label or a plan).

SUMMARY, IN ONE OR TWO SENTENCES, FOR WHOEVER READS THIS NEXT

A filled-in line, for reference

“Filled in 10 of 10 blanks on Fill In the Blanks on 10/16. Next step: Short Answers, saying each answer aloud before writing.” That is the level of detail this page is built for. It matches the filled example on page 24.

PREVIEW

EXAMPLE MAYA'S TRACKER

Maya R. is invented; nothing on this page describes a real student. The blank tracker is on page 20.

STUDENT	TEACHER	UNIT DATES
Maya R. (an invented student)	**Ms. Reyes (invented)**	**October**

PAGE	PAGE TYPE	ITEMS	RIGHT	DATE	NOTES
5	Lines of Latitude on the Map	5	5	10/12	–
6	Place Each Zone on the Map	8	6	10/13	Mixed up two zones
7	Read a Climate Graph	6	5	10/14	Misread one month
8	Match the Graph to the Zone	5	–	–	–
9	Match the Zone to Its Description	6	4	10/15	Swapped two zones
10	Fill In the Blanks	10	10	10/16	–
11	Compare in a Venn Diagram	10	–	–	–
12	Circle the True Sentence	6	–	–	–
13	Multiple Choice	8	7	10/19	Missed number 5
14	True or False? Fix It	8	–	–	–
15	Cut and Paste: Sort It	12	–	–	–
16	Short Answers	5	–	–	–
17	Explain It	3	–	–	–

How to read it

Maya R. has done **6 of 13** scored pages and got **37 of 43** items right. **2** pages were all right and **6** items were missed across 4 pages. Every number here comes from the table above.

The family note this tracker would produce

"This month Maya finished 6 pages and got 37 of 43 items right. The next thing to practice is placing each region in its zone and reading the graphs." — every number in it is a row of the table above.

What the table points to

4 pages carry a note and each one is short of full. Pages left blank (7 of them) are not tried yet, never wrong. The two writing pages, Short Answers and Explain It, are among them, so they are the next step.

PREVIEW

ORGANIZER

BINDER COVER

Slide this into the front of a binder. The divider tabs and a spine label to cut out are on the next page.

SCIENCE · GRADES 6-8

CLIMATE ZONES

Latitude, oceans and mountains shape each place's climate

TEACHER

CLASS OR STUDENT

PREVIEW