



Climate Zones

In this unit the children will learn:

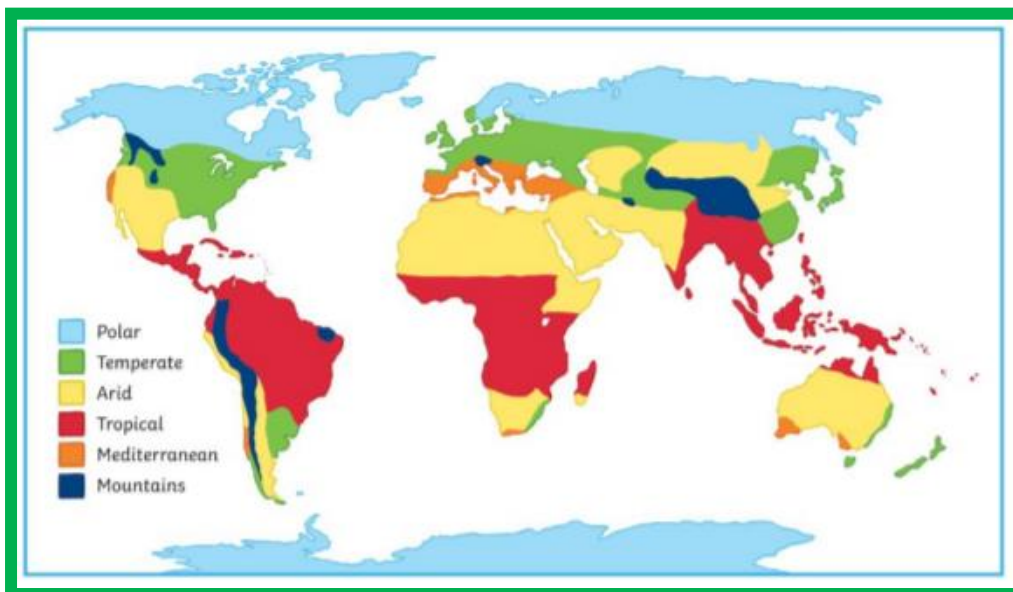
- The location of climate zones.
- Comparison of climates.
- The weather patterns in a climate zone.
- The characteristics of climate zones.
- To use maps and different sources to investigate climate zones.
- How to use the key Geographical vocabulary linked to this topic.

Geographical Skills and Concepts:

Locational Knowledge – we will be able to identify the position and significance of latitude, Equator, Northern Hemisphere, Southern Hemisphere and the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.

Human and Physical Geography – we will describe and understand key aspects of physical geography.

The World's Climate Zones



Key Facts about Climate Zones:

Climate is the average daily and seasonal weather patterns over a long period of time.

The Equator is an invisible line that runs around the centre of the Earth. The closer you live to the Equator, the hotter it is.

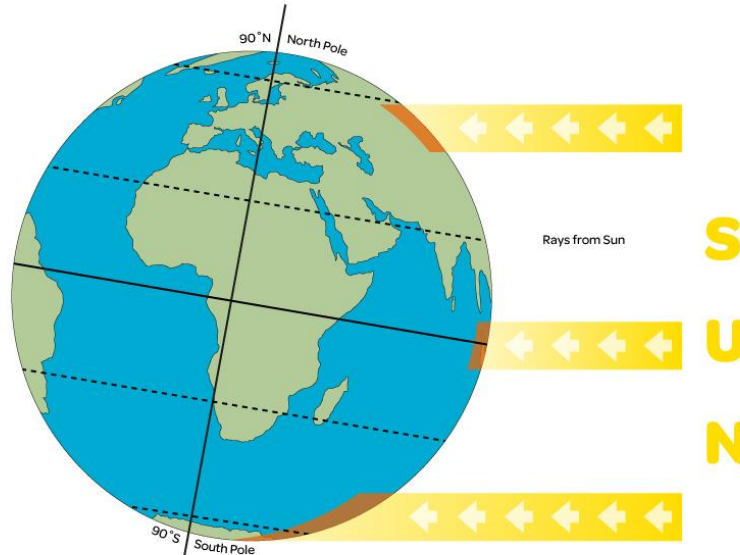
As the Earth is tilted on an axis, the Northern and Southern Hemispheres experience different types of weather at the same time of the year.

There are 6 main Climate Zones: Polar (e.g. Antarctica); Temperate (e.g. UK); Arid (e.g. the Sahara); Tropical (e.g. Brazil); Mediterranean (e.g. Spain); and Mountain (e.g. the Himalayas).



Key Facts about the Earth:

The Earth is a sphere and therefore has a curved surface. This means the closer you live to the Equator, the hotter it is.



The same amount of the sun's energy is spread out over a larger area across the polar climate zone, compared with the tropical climate zone. This means that it's much warmer in the tropical zone than the polar zone.

Key Vocabulary:

Axis: An imaginary line about which the Earth rotates.

Climate: Long-term weather patterns

Climate zone: A part of the world where places have a similar climate (i.e. arid, Mediterranean, temperate, tropical, polar)

Desert: These are extremely dry and receive virtually no rain; they can be either hot or cold.

Hemisphere: One half of the earth.

Latitude: Latitude is the distance a place is from the Equator and is measured in degrees.

Northern Hemisphere: Everything north of the Equator.

Precipitation: Rain, hail, fog, sleet and snow.

Season: A few consecutive months of the year that share a similar weather pattern.

Southern Hemisphere: Everything south of the Equator.

Weather: Day-to-day temperature, wind, rainfall, etc