

Climate & Oceans

Explore Term Geography

Week 4

The Five Climate Zones

This term is our EXPLORE term

During this term we will be thinking about these questions:

- **Philosophical question:**
How does where we live affect our identity?
- **Geographical question:**
How does weather affect our lives?



Today we are going to learn about different climate zones

What are we learning today?

Investigate patterns

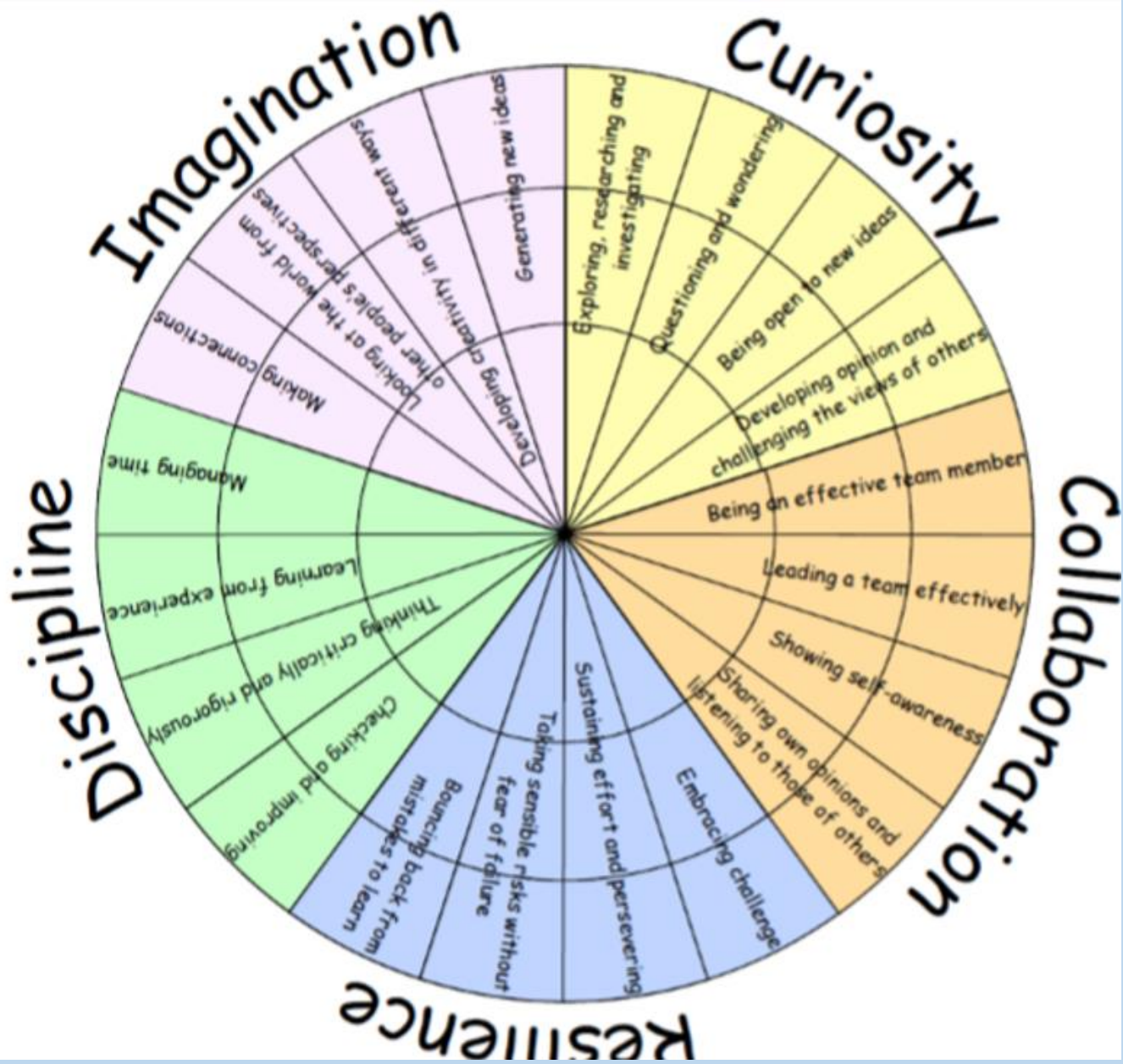
- To know the characteristics of *Mediterranean* and *tropical* climates and how they affect living conditions.

Learning objectives:

- To use information books to find out about the people, animals and plants surviving in *Mediterranean* and *tropical* zones.

Skills:

- Name the climate zones, using geographical language.
- Research a question using non-fiction texts; report back, speaking clearly to explain their findings to a listening audience.
- Continue to build a word bank for future use.



LEARNING HABITS:

Which learning habits do you think we will need to use today?

We are going to begin today with the 6 questions from the last lesson.

- Will the answers be the same if we research someone who lives near the Equator in the **tropical** climate zone?



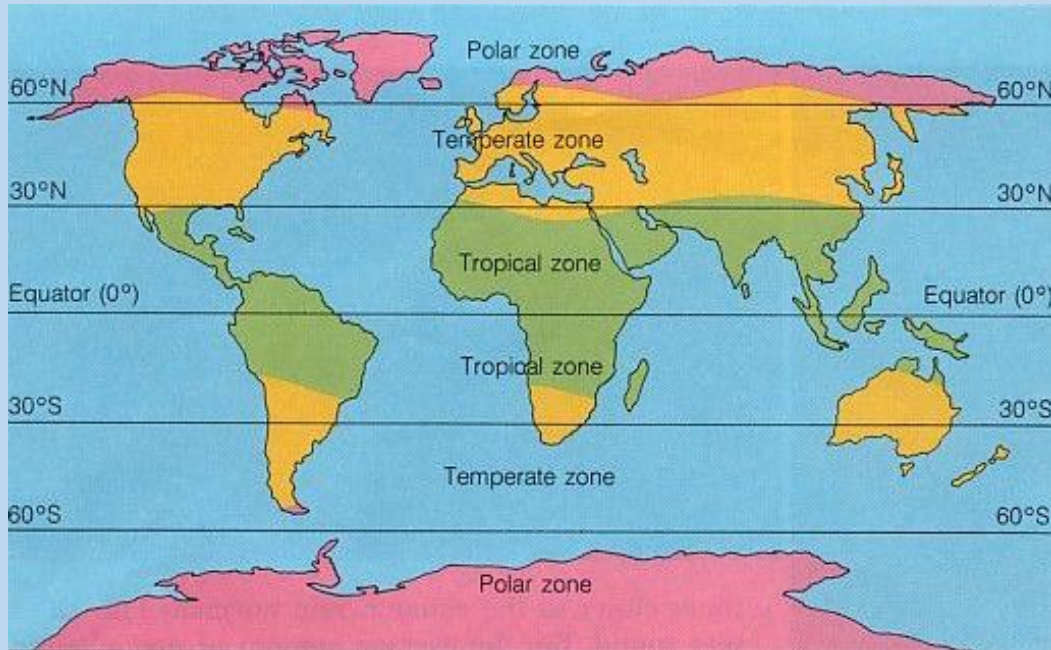
We are going to watch a video clip from a tropical zone:

[RIO - Real in Rio - Beginning and End of the Movie - YouTube](#)

- Talk with an adult in your home.
- Choose 3 words to describe your impressions of the video, e.g. happy, colourful, bright, warm, lush, wild, etc.
- Is this climate zone the same as the polar or arid zones?
- Can you describe the differences?



- It's nearer the equator and so it's hotter.
- The desert (**arid**) zones are hot and dry.
- It rains in the **tropical** zone.
- The **tropical** zone climate has only 2 seasons: **hot and wet**, and **hot and dry**.



Tropical Zones



Tropical zones are nearer the equator and so it's hotter. The arid zones are hot and dry but it rains in the tropical zone. The tropical zone climate has only 2 seasons: hot and wet, and hot and dry.

Tropical Zones



Where are Tropical zones found?

They are mostly found in areas that are close to the equator. The sun shines and is very strong. It can get very, very hot. There are three different types of tropical climates, let's take a look at them.

Tropical Zones



Tropical wet

These are also known as rainforests, just like the world famous Amazon rainforest. Here you the weather is the same every day. Lots of rain, warm nights and hot days. The seasons hardly change at all.

Tropical Zones



Tropical wet and dry

These areas have three seasons. One season is cool and dry, the next is hot and dry and the last season is wet and hot. Sometimes there is hardly any rain here, which sometimes means not enough water and food for people and animals.

Tropical Zones



Tropical monsoon

This **tropical** climate has winds that change direction every six months. During the summer, the winds blow in from the sea and this brings lots of rain. Then, in winter, the winds turn around and blow from the land to the sea. Because of this change, the winter is very dry. In these areas, people rely on monsoons in the summer to bring rain for their crops, but sometimes these monsoons can be really strong, which means there are sometimes floods and mudslides.

Tropical Zones



Hello, my name is Boukou! Me and my family are Baka hunter-gatherers. Our ancestors were the original inhabitants of the rainforest in Cameroon. The word 'hunter-gatherer' means that we move from place to place collecting and hunting food found wild in the forest. Baka people speak their own unique language, also known as Baka, which is different from the other languages spoken in the Cameroon. Our lives depend on the rainforest as it provides us with food and homes.

Tropical Zones



It is hot and humid in the tropics so it's important to wear clothing that is light in both weight and colour. Cotton is a breathable fabric made of natural fibres. Linen is another cooling fabric that lets the sweat of the body evaporate. Light-coloured clothing reflects the sun's rays, while darker colours absorb them and make you feel warmer. For comfort wear loose tops and trousers or light shorts.

Tropical Zones



Baka communities move from place to place in search of food that the forest provides, including animals, fruit and vegetables. We stay in one area for a while and then move to set up a new camp in a different part of the forest. My father and the men hunt in the forest, using bows and poisoned arrows and spears. Hunting is one of our most important activities, it gives us food to eat, but it also has symbolic meanings and prestige is given to successful hunters. We always make sure that the meat is shared among everyone. All sorts of animals are eaten from rodents, antelope, porcupines, monkeys and even crocodiles.

Tropical Zones



My mother joins the women to gather wild fruits, nuts, mushrooms and vegetables, such as yam, in the forest. They also collect honey from beehives in the trees. During some times of the year insects such as termites and caterpillars are eaten too! During dry seasons when the water level is low, fish and eels can often be found in the mud of the river bed. Fresh-water shrimps and crabs are cooked back at the camp for the community to share, these are my favourite!

Tropical Zones



I live with my mother, father, two brothers, a little sister and two grandparents. It is normal for the Baka people to live in small groups of families like this. The women in the family build a temporary hut constructed of bowed branches covered in large leaves, called *Mongulus*. Sometimes they add other plant material to the dome of leaves in order to make the roof waterproof. Every time we move camp, they build a new one! Our huts are usually small inside and have basic items such as a bed and shelves, which are all made from wood that we collect in the forest.

Tropical Zones



Birds such as macaws, toucans and hummingbirds all live in the rainforest eating small prey, nuts, fruit and insects.

Tropical Zones



Mammals such as orangutans, gorillas, jaguars and sloths all call the rainforest home.



Insects including cutter ants, scorpions and butterflies live on the forest plants.

Tropical Zones



Amphibians such as frogs and toads live in trees or near areas of water on the forest floor.



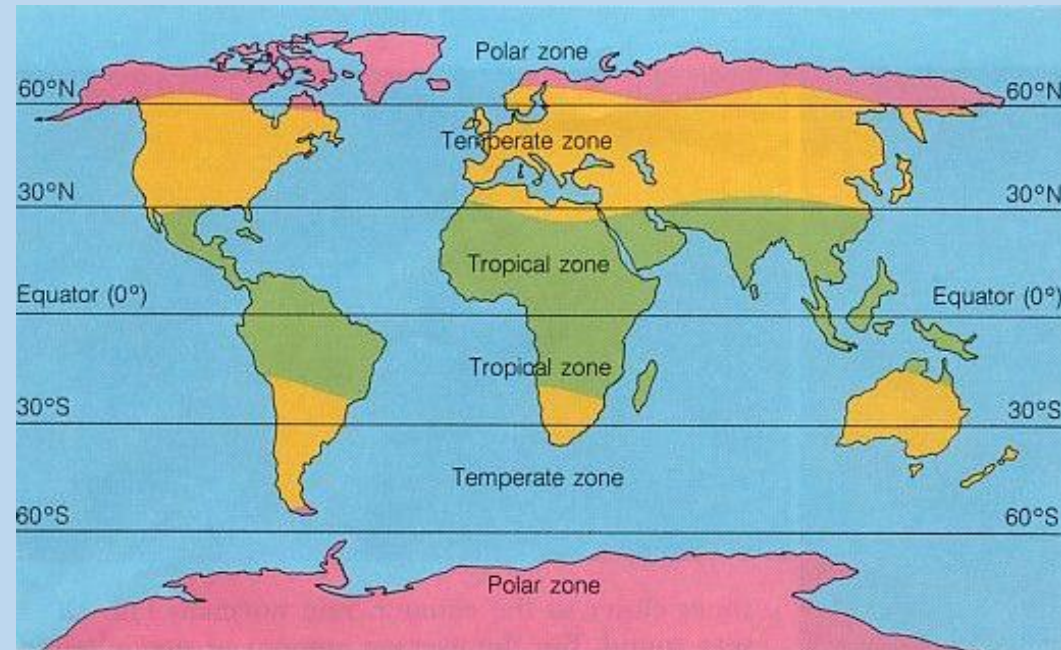
Fish including the piranha, fresh water dolphins and stingray live in the rivers that run through the rainforests.

Tropical Zones

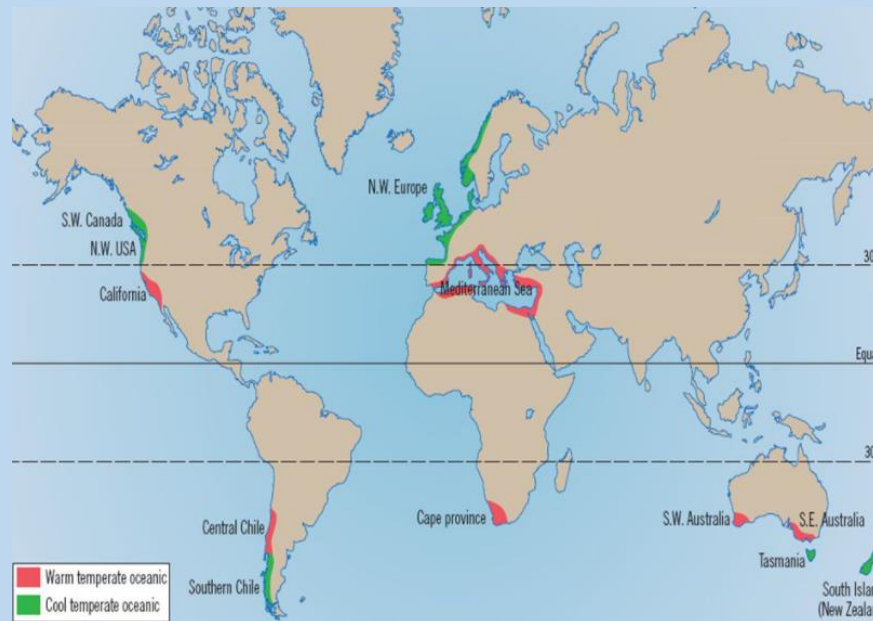


The **tropical** rainforest contains more species of plants than any other biome. Orchids, ferns and banana trees all grow in the rainforest.

- Look at the world map.
- If you travel north from the Equator you come to this zone, the [Mediterranean](#) climate zone.
- What would it be like there?
- Let's find out!



Mediterranean Zones



Where is the **Mediterranean** climate usually found?

The **Mediterranean** climate is found between the **arid** zone and the equator. This climate is often found on the western sides of continents. The **Mediterranean** climate gets its name from the climate found around the Mediterranean Sea.

Mediterranean Zones



The [Mediterranean](#) climate is a very pleasant climate with warm, dry summers and cool, mild winters. It gets its name from the Mediterranean Sea. Most of the coastal land around the Mediterranean Sea experience this climate.

Mediterranean Zones



What seasons does the [Mediterranean](#) climate have?

The [Mediterranean](#) climate is very mild and it really only has 2 seasons: summer and winter. Summers are longer than winter, and the winter is very mild.

Mediterranean Zones



What are the temperatures like in [Mediterranean](#) climate?

The climate is known for warm or hot, dry summers and mild or cool, wet winters. Winter temperatures are usually very mild. Summer months are warm and dry.

Mediterranean Zones



How much rain does the [Mediterranean](#) climate have?

The [Mediterranean](#) climate is a mostly dry climate. Almost no rain falls during the summer, so most of the rain falls during the cooler winter.

Mediterranean Zones



What kinds of Plants does the [Mediterranean](#) climate have?

Plants in [Mediterranean](#) climate must be able to survive long dry summers. Trees such as Pine and Cypress grow in the [Mediterranean](#) zone. Fruit trees and vines such as grapes, figs, olives, and citrus fruits grow well here. Other plants include what are called "scrub", which include small shrubs, grasses, and herbs.

Mediterranean Zones



What kinds of animals does the [Mediterranean](#) climate have?

In order to survive here, animals must be able to live in rugged land and not depend too much on large areas of grass to graze. The natural wildlife found here include goats, sheep and rabbits. These animals graze, but eat a wide variety of plants compared to cows who rely on grasses.

Mediterranean Zones



Red clay roof tiles

Like Spanish and Mexican homes, [Mediterranean](#)-style homes typically have red, clay roof tiles that are shaped like half of a tube. This shape not only allows water to drain easily, but also captures cold air in its pocket to cool the house during hot days.

Mediterranean Zones



Stucco walls

Stucco exterior and interior walls are commonly seen in areas with warm, dry climates. During warm days, these thick walls can better retain the interior's cool air. At night, when temperatures decrease, they slowly release the warmth accumulated from the day into the home.

Mediterranean Zones



An outdoor living space

Most homes feature an outdoor living space, like a patio, terrace or balcony and have plenty of access points to the outdoors throughout the house.

Mediterranean Zones



As the climate is often hot, it is best to wear loose, comfortable clothes such as t-shirts and shorts.

Mediterranean Zones



There are plenty of vegetables and fruits available to eat as well as nuts and seeds, breads, herbs, spices, fish, seafood and extra virgin olive oil.

6 Questions

Now that we have read about the **tropical** and **Mediterranean** zones, let's have another look at the 6 questions.

6 Questions

We are going to try and answer the questions again but this time thinking about life in the **tropical** or the **Mediterranean** zones.

Choose one of the zones to help answer the questions.

6 Questions

Let's remind ourselves of those questions:

- What clothes do you wear?
- Where do you live?
- What do you eat?
- How do you travel around?
- What creatures do you see?
- What plants grow around you?

6 Questions


We are going to use a top trumps template to write what we have found out.

I have chosen to write about where I live.
But this time you will be writing about life in
either **tropical** or **Mediterranean** zones.

You can add a picture in the space on the card.

Your cards will look something like this:

Mediterranean Zone



Where do you live?
Italy, Spain or Greece

I live in ...


My house ...

My home ...

My house is made of ...

My house has ...

Tropical Zone



Where do you live?
The Rainforest

I live in ...

My home ...

My home ...

My home is made of ...

My home has ...

6 Questions

When you have written your answers on your trump card you can colour the tab at the top for the zone you have chosen. Green for **tropical** zones and orange for Mediterranean zones.

Tropical Zone

Where do you live?

Mediterranean Zone

Where do you live?

6 Questions

What have you found out?

How many trump cards were you able to fill in?

Did you notice anything interesting about life in the [tropical](#) or [Mediterranean](#) zones?

Remember to photograph your work and upload it to *Class Dojo*.

I am really looking forward to seeing your work.