

Name _____

Extra Support for
Vocabulary and Concepts

What Factors Affect Climate?

Science Words

Say each word quietly to yourself. Then read the meaning.

Read the tip to help you remember.

climate [KLY•mit] the long-term weather patterns of a place

Climate ends with the sound at the beginning of *time*. *Climate* is the average weather of an area over a long time.

climate zone [KLY•mit ZOHN] an area that has similar average temperatures and precipitation throughout

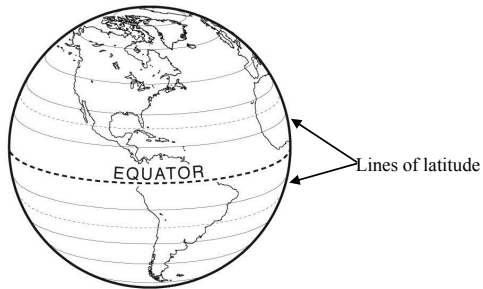
You may have seen a street sign that says, “Quiet. Hospital Zone.” A zone is an area that is separated from others. A *climate zone* is separated from others by the type of climate in the area.

equator [ee•KWAY•ter] the imaginary line that divides Earth into its northern and southern hemisphere, or halves

Equator and *equal* are in the same word family. When things are equal, they are the same size or quantity. The *equator* divides Earth into two equal hemispheres.

latitude [LAT•uh•tood] the measure of how far north or south a place is from the equator

Latitude ends with the sound at the beginning of *down*. To find *latitude*, measure down or up from the equator.



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Science Concepts

Read the Ideas more than once. Do your best to remember them.

1. Weather changes from day to day; climate is the weather pattern over a long period of time.
2. Three of Earth's climate zones (areas with similar climates) are the tropical, temperate, and polar zones.
3. Polar climate zones, which are farthest from the equator, are cold all year round.
4. Tropical climate zones, which are nearest the equator, are hot all year round.
5. Most of the United States is in a temperate climate zone with mild temperatures.
6. These four things affect climate: distance from the equator, elevation, landforms, and water.
7. A mountaintop near the equator has a cool climate because of its elevation.
8. The ocean side of a mountain may have a wet climate, while the other side has a dry climate.
9. The Gulf Stream is a warm ocean current that flows past Florida and across the Atlantic.
10. The climate of an area affects the plants and animals that can survive there.