

## Weather around the World

<https://www.curriculumvisions.com/IMT/geography/geographyWeather>

The site has video clips in the books to help you understand.

Print off the out line map in separate document if you want to.

- Use these on the screen to create your own map.

**Discuss** or **write** the answers to :

- Where would you like to live in the world ? Why do you think this?
- Is there another region of the world which would be similar?
- Which countries would these be?



## WEATHER AROUND THE WORLD

# Weather patterns around the world

The long-term weather varies a great deal across the world.



We think about the weather in two ways: the day to day changes, and what it is like on average. The map on this page shows you what it is like on average all over the world. This is the sort of information we need to know when planning our holidays.

### Hot and cold places

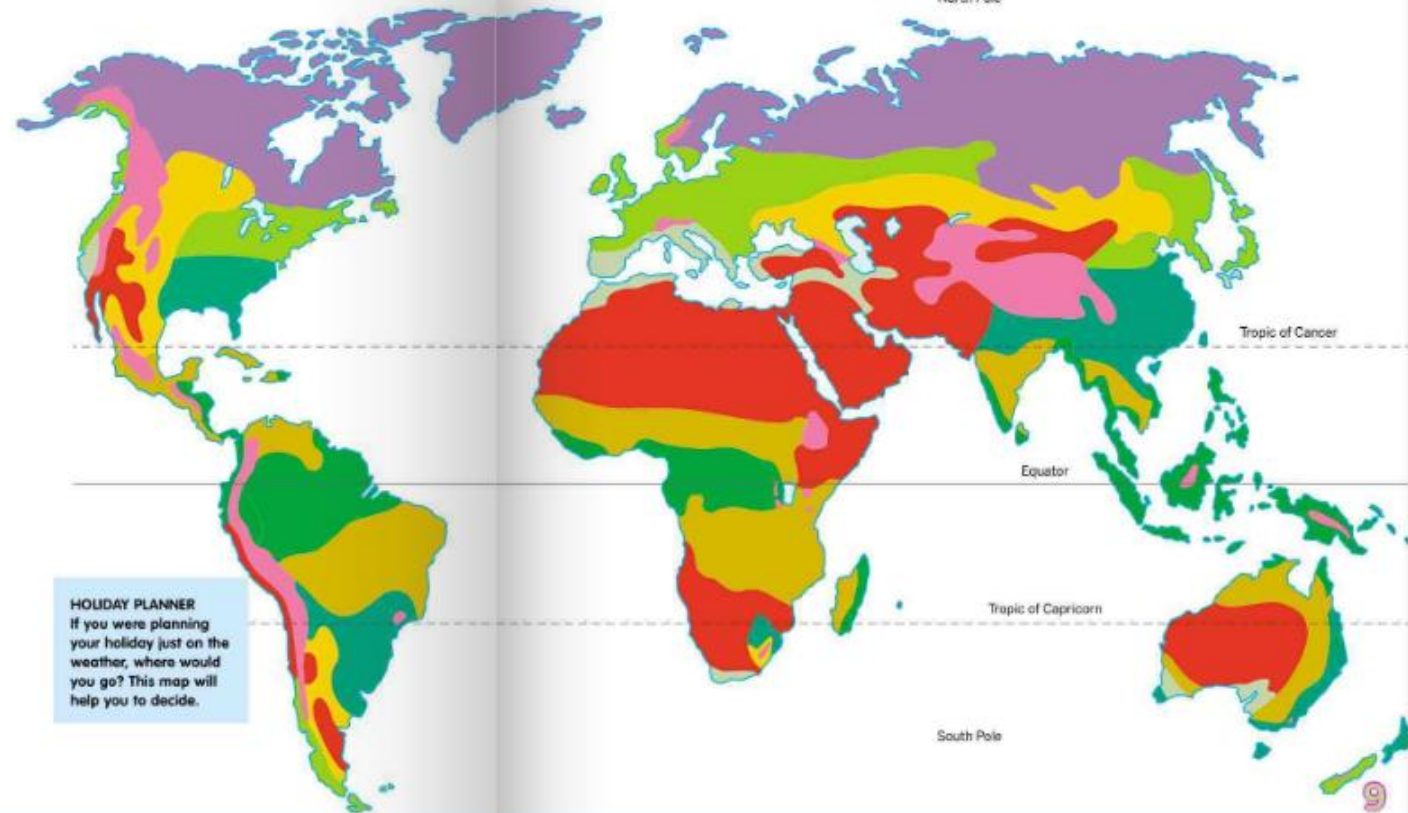
The Earth heats up most around its middle, the region called the tropics. Here the Sun shines overhead every day. By contrast, it is much colder near the poles where the Sun rises to only a low angle in the sky. We live in the middle, a region called the **MID-LATITUDES**, and here it is mild, not hot or cold.

The world's weather bands are mainly caused by how warm or cool it is and they run roughly parallel with the equator.

### Rainy and dry places

Rain mainly falls in places close to oceans where winds bring moist air onshore. Places like the UK, which gets lots of onshore winds, have wet weather. Places far from oceans or places where winds blow offshore have much drier weather. These are some of the reasons that weather is not divided into simple bands that run right around the globe.

▼ ① This map shows the main types of average weather (CLIMATE) across the Earth. Notice how the climates are mainly laid out in bands parallel to the equator. Different amounts of rainfall and mountains break up the simple pattern.



**HOLIDAY PLANNER**  
If you were planning your holiday just on the weather, where would you go? This map will help you to decide.

# What temperature means

Temperatures change through the day just as much as they change with the seasons.

It is striking how the weather changes from one part of the day to another, and from one day to the next. On these next few pages we will see why this happens.

## Temperature

We measure warmth using a **THERMOMETER** (picture ①). The measure of warmth is called temperature. Thermometers are used to measure the temperature of the air. To get accurate readings thermometers are placed in the shade, often in special airy cabinets.

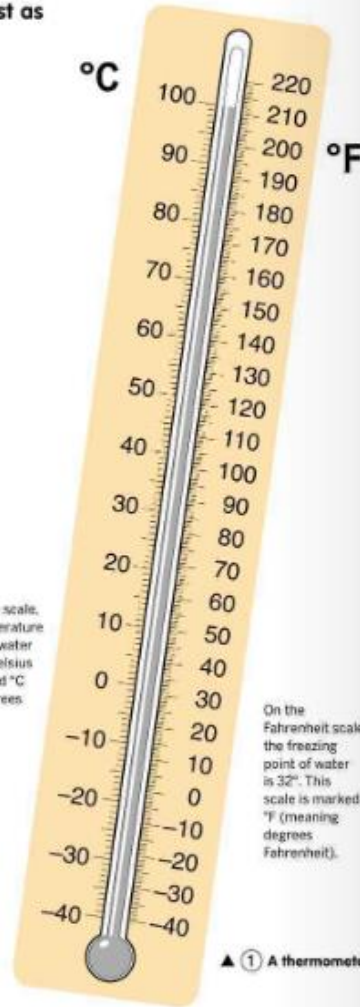
Thermometers are used to find out the average temperature each day of the year. We then use the temperature to say something about what the average weather is like at places all over the world.

## Hot places

If you were going on holiday to a hot place, you would expect the temperature in the shade to be over 25°C whichever month you went there. Egypt is a hot place. If you stood in the sunshine in such places you might find it uncomfortably hot (picture ②). In hot places many people sit in the shade, perhaps under an umbrella on the beach (picture ③). Indoors they might use air conditioning all year. In these kind of places you might go on holiday when they have their coolest part of the year.

On the Celsius scale, 0° is the temperature at which pure water freezes. The Celsius scale is marked °C (meaning degrees Celsius).

On the Fahrenheit scale, the freezing point of water is 32°. This scale is marked °F (meaning degrees Fahrenheit).



▶ ② When people go to hot countries they should not go about in swimwear all day. Instead, they should wear clothes to cover their heads, arms and legs. Without this protection they might become overheated and fall ill (as well as receiving dangerous amounts of Sun, see page 12). These people are visiting the monuments of ancient Egypt. Look to see if they are at risk.



▲ ③ If you put a thermometer in direct sunlight, it will soak up the Sun's rays and become hot. This is also what happens to you when you sunbathe. If you go to a hot place, this would be uncomfortable as well as dangerous, which is why people use umbrellas on, for example, tropical beaches.

## Warm and cool places

If you went on holiday to a warm or a cool place, you would find that the temperature went above 25°C in some months, but in other months it would be 15°C or even lower. You might visit these kind of places during their summer, and perhaps late spring and early autumn. Sydney, Australia, is an example of a warm place. The UK is a cool place.

## Cold places

If you went on holiday to a cold place you would find that the temperature went below freezing for many months of each year. In mountains you might visit them for skiing in winter or walking in their short summer.

