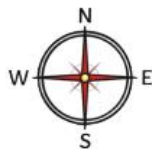


Key Vocabulary

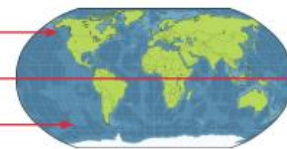
co-ordinates	A set of numbers and/or letters that show you a specific position on a map.
hemisphere	A half of the earth, usually divided by the equator into the northern and southern hemisphere.
observatory	A place for observing and studying natural events on Earth or in space.
polar	The area around the North or South Pole.
precipitation	Water particles that reach the ground including rain, hail and snow.



northern hemisphere

equator

southern hemisphere



Longitude and Latitude

Latitude lines run around the earth east to west.

These lines are the same distance apart from each other.



Longitude lines run over the top of the earth north to south.

These lines are not equally distant from each other.



These lines are used to give the specific location of anywhere in the world using co-ordinates.

Time Zones

- The Prime Meridian (PM) line divides the earth into the eastern and western hemisphere.
- It passes through the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, England.
- All time zones start here - Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).
- There are 24 different time zones – one for each hour in the day.
- From GMT to the east = +1 hour for every time zone.
- From GMT to the west = -1 hour for every time zone.
- The International Date Line is on the opposite side of the world from the PM. When it is noon at the Prime Meridian, it is midnight along the International Date Line. This is where midnight occurs first across the globe.

Prime Meridian



Polar Regions

North Pole

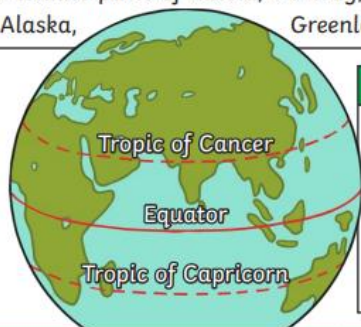
South Pole

Arctic Circle

Antarctic Circle

Includes parts of Russia, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Canada, Alaska, Greenland and Iceland.

Has no countries and has no one living there permanently. It is a protected place of scientific and environmental research.



The Tropics

- The Tropic of Cancer (northern tropic) and the Tropic of Capricorn (southern tropic) mark the most northerly and southerly positions that the sun can be overhead.
- Between the tropics the weather is hot all year round.
- Rainfall can vary here. In some places, there is very little rain, some areas have a rainy season and some places have lots of rain all year round.

Tropical Rainforest

- South America, Africa and Southeast Asia
- Constantly warm
- No dry season
- Average 60mm rain per month



Tropical Coniferous Rainforest

- North & Central America and Asia
- Steady temperatures all year round
- Low precipitation



Tropical Dry Forest

- Mexico, Brazil, Southeast Asia and India
- Warm all year round
- Long dry seasons



Tropical Grasslands (Savannahs)

- Africa, Asia, India and Australia
- Hot
- Dry season lasts up to 9 months
- 900mm – 1500mm rain per year



