



Geography focus	Polar Landscapes	Year 5	Summer Term
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What? (Key knowledge)

Latitude, Longitude and the Equator

Latitude and longitude are a system of lines used to describe the location of any place on Earth. Lines of latitude run parallel to the Equator, whereas lines of longitude run from East to West.

The Coldest Places on Earth

Weather	Weather changes daily and it is the temperature and conditions for the day.
Climate Zones	The climate of a location is often linked to its location in the world. The climate zones we will examine are polar, temperate, arid, tropical, mediterranean and mountainous.
Polar Regions	The polar regions are cold all year round, but many places in the Arctic are warm in summer.
Arctic vs Antarctica	The South Pole is colder than the North Pole. This is because ice at the South Pole sits on top of the land mass of Antarctica, whereas that at the North Pole lies over the Arctic Ocean.
Arctic Circle	The Arctic Circle is, in fact, an imaginary line around the Earth that surrounds the area referred to as the Arctic. It shows the start of the area on the Earth's surface where, for at least one day per year, the sun does not completely set.
Wildlife Adaptations	There are three main habitats in the Arctic: snow and ice (the high Arctic), and then the tundra and the forest (taiga).
Human impacts on the Earth's climate	The Earth's climate has changed many times over thousands of years. However, over the last 50 years, humans have caused the planet to warm much more quickly by our everyday activities releasing too much carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere

Possible experiences

- Use Google Earth to investigate the locations of the Climate Zones
- Arctic survival—building shelters in Nature's Nook

What? (Key Vocabulary)

Climate Change	Climate change describes how our planet's average temperature, rainfall, wind and other weather conditions have changed over a long period of time.
Latitude	Imaginary lines around the Earth, also known as parallels, from east to west.
Longitude	Imaginary lines around the Earth running from the North to the South Pole. They are not parallel.
Equator	An equator is an imaginary line around the middle of a planet. It is halfway between the North Pole and the South Pole, at 0 degrees latitude. An equator divides the planet into a Northern Hemisphere and a Southern Hemisphere.
Prime Meridian	The line of longitude that runs through Greenwich at 0 degrees longitude.
Aurora Borealis	The Aurora Borealis, or Northern Lights, are the result of solar particles colliding with gases in Earth's atmosphere

Diagrams and symbols



The world map with latitude and longitude lines as grid references



Climate Zones of the world.