

What is the Climate like?

Why are there deserts in some countries and rainforests in other countries? It's always very cold at the North Pole and South Pole, even in summer. Why isn't it very cold all year where you live? Different places have different climates. Climate describes the usual weather of a place over many years and it influences the plants and animals that we find there. There are three main climate zones: **polar**, **temperate** and **tropical**.



1



2



3

Tropical climates are hot and humid all year. Countries near the equator are in the tropical climate zone. They don't have four seasons: they only have rainy and dry seasons.

Temperate climates usually have winters that aren't very cold and summers that aren't very hot. Countries in the temperate climate zone have four seasons: winter, spring, summer and autumn.

Polar climates are cold all year and there is always snow and ice. In winter the temperatures can be as low as -50°C and it's dark all the time. In summer there is sun nearly all day, but it's very weak, so it's still cold.

Match the photos and write the name of the climate.

1	
2	
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4 Read the text again and answer the questions.

- 1 Which climate zone has rainy and dry seasons? _____
- 2 When is it dark all day in the polar climate zone? _____
- 3 To see autumn, which climate zone should you visit? _____

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