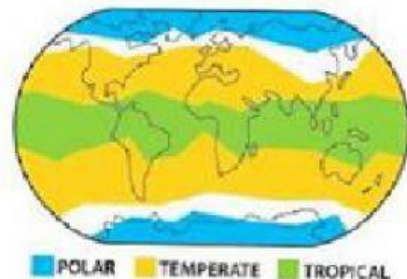


# What is the Climate like?

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  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$  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.

## World Climatic Zones

Climatic zones are based on the average temperature range and precipitation (rain and snow) of an area over an extended period of time.

There are 3 main Climatic Zones:



The world has several CLIMATIC ZONES categorized by the map below:

- Shade all land between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn "Tropical"
- Shade all land from the 23.5°N to 66.5°N and 23.5°S to 66.5°S "Temperate"
- Shade all land north of 66.5°N and all land south of 66.5°S "Polar"

Day 1:

Using the blank Map of the World below and identify the 3 main Climate Zones.

- Polar Climate
- Temperate Climate
- Tropical Climate

## Continents and Oceans of the World

