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Weather and Climate

Lesson Plan

Contents

- ▶ What are weather and climate?
- ▶ The factors that influence climate. The heat zones: The Tropical Zone; The Temperate Zone; The Polar Zone

Objectives

- ▶ Learning about weather and climate and the difference between them.
- ▶ To learn about factors that influence climate.

Teacher's Aids

- ▶ A map of the world showing the different climate zones, wind and water currents, etc.
- ▶ Atlases, internet, and some newspaper reports about weather.

Tips for Teacher

- ▶ Take real-life examples from the city where you live to explain the difference between weather and climate.
- ▶ Use the newspaper reports about weather forecast to create relevance and interest. You can have a warm day in winter or rain on a hot summer day.
- ▶ Four seasons are indicated world-wide. In the subcontinent, we have Spring, Summer, Monsoon and Winter.
- ▶ Do you know the traditional seasons mentioned in Sanskrit literature in India: *Vasant*, *Greeshma*, *Varsha*, *Hemant*, *Sharad* and *Shishir*? Each is roughly of two months' duration.

Gear Up and Background

- ▶ Explain the background of the seasons as given in the tips above.
- ▶ What is the present season?
- ▶ What is the climate now?
- ▶ What is the weather now?
- ▶ In the illustration, the scene depicts the rainy season.

/// Factors Influencing Climate

- ▶ Read aloud and explain what weather is. Explain what climate is. What is the difference?
- ▶ What are seasons? Are they a part of the weather or climate?
- ▶ Explain the factors that influence the climate and how they do so:
 - (a) Distance from the Equator;
 - (b) Height above sea level;
 - (c) Distance from the sea;
 - (d) Prevailing winds;
 - (e) Amount of moisture in the air.

/// The Heat Zones

The three heat zones are:

- (a) The Tropical Zone
- (b) The Temperate Zone
- (c) The Polar Zone

Explain the features of the three zones broadly and that in the lessons to follow you will be dealing with four regions:

- (a) Hot and wet region
- (b) Hot and dry region
- (c) Very cold region
- (d) Extreme climate region