

## Knowledge Organiser

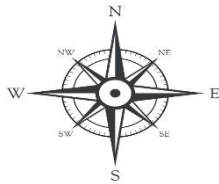
**Subject: Geography Unit: Why are jungles so wet and deserts so dry?**

### Overview:

During this sequence of learning, pupils will look at climate patterns and give reasons for different climates. They will also construct climate graphs and discuss how plants and animals adapt to their environment. Pupils will also look at the reasons why jungles are so wet and deserts so dry.

### What should I already know?

- Countries that are near to the Equator are hotter whereas countries further away are colder.
- A desert is an area where there is little or no rainfall.
- Antarctica is the largest desert in the world and is very different to the Sahara Desert.
- The weather changes with the seasons.
- Human features are those created by humans whereas physical features are those that are naturally occurring.
- The four points of a compass.



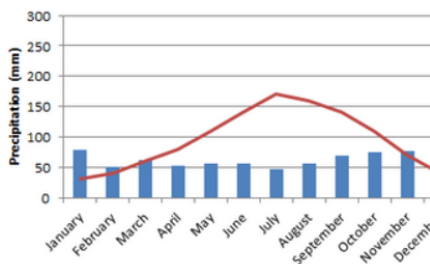
### What will I know by the end of the unit?

#### Knowledge

- The further north you travel in the UK towards the North Pole, the colder it gets and the further south you travel towards the Equator the warmer it becomes.
- The west of the country is the wettest and the east is the driest.
- The wettest places on Earth are all found around the Equator and between the Equator and the Tropics of Capricorn and Cancer.
- The tropics of Capricorn and Cancer are the only points on Earth where the sun shines straight down. They are located either side of the Equator.

Climate graphs are used, which allow us to see very quickly the pattern of average

temperature each month (red line) and the average monthly rainfall (blue bars).



### Vocabulary:

Northern Hemisphere	The half of the earth that is north of the equator.
Southern Hemisphere	The half of the earth that is south of the equator.
Equator	The imaginary circle around the earth that is halfway between the North and South Poles.
Climate	The usual weather conditions in a place.
Climate graph	This shows average rainfall and temperatures for a location.
Drought	A long period with little or no rain.
Tropical	Characteristic of, or happening near the equator.
Jungle	Land covered with many trees, vines, and bushes; a tropical rain forest.
Temperate	Having neither extremely hot nor extremely cold temperatures and mild weather.
Rainforest	A dense evergreen forest, mostly found in tropical areas, that receives a large amount of rain all year long.
Biome	An area of the planet that can be classified according to the plants and animals that live there.
Precipitation	Another word for rain.
Arid	

- Climate graphs allow comparisons to be made between different areas.
- The climate of a place affects the plants and animals that live there e.g. a cactus grows in the desert because it doesn't require much water whereas a different plant wouldn't survive there.
- Large communities of plants and animals covering distinct areas of the world are called Biomes.
- The Amazon River is the world's greatest river in terms of the volume of water it carries and it is only a few kilometres shorter than the River Nile (the longest river in the world).
- The jungle of the Amazon rainforest is incredibly wet and humid. It rains in the rainforest nearly every day - this is known as convectional rainfall. This is when the rainforest heats up, meaning the water evaporates into the atmosphere forming clouds for the next day's rain. The daily rain and hot climate makes the rainforest very humid.
- In comparison the Atacama Desert is the driest inhabited place on Earth. Some places there haven't had any rainfall in 500 years. It is so dry due to its location near to the Andes Mountains. Moist air flows across the Pacific Ocean towards Arica however it is immediately forced into the atmosphere when it meets the Andes Mountains. As the air then rises it forms huge clouds above the mountains which then rain on the other side of the mountains meaning the Atacama Desert remains dry.

**Skills**

- Make comparisons between two locations.
- Use compass directions to describe locations.
- Understand and use a key on a map.
- Identify features on an Ariel map.
- Construct climate graphs and use them to compare the climate in two locations.

**Atmosphere**

Extremely dry, especially from lack of rainfall.  
The air of a particular place.



Atacama Desert in Chile:

