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Activities

Your Climate

Name: _____ Date: _____

What's the climate like where you live? In this Planet Diary activity, you'll compare climate data in your region and other parts of the country. You'll also explore why climate varies in different locations.

Directions

- Start at NOAA's climate map of the United States. Click your state on the map, then select the city closest to where you live to see its climate graphs.
- Use the information to complete the table for question 1 in the Workspace. To find Summer Mean Maximum temperature, look at the black line on the first graph. What's the highest temperature it hits in the summer? Record this number on the table. For Winter Mean Minimum, find the black line on the second graph. Find the lowest winter temperature. Use the elevation and precipitation data found above the graphs to complete the row for your city.
- How does your climate compare to that in other parts of the country? Return to the climate map. Navigate to each of the cities listed on the table. Use the data to complete the table.
- How do factors such as elevation, latitude, and geography affect climate? Use the data you collected to help answer questions 2 and 3.

Workspace

1.

City, State	Elevation	Summer Mean Maximum (°F)	Winter Mean Minimum (°F)	Mean Annual Precipitation (inches)	Mean Annual Snow (inches)
My city: _____					
Buffalo, New York					
Miami, Florida					
Houston, Texas					
Detroit, Michigan					
Seattle, Washington					
San Francisco, California					
Denver, Colorado					

2. How is temperature affected by elevation, latitude, or geography (e.g. location on a coast vs inland). Give specific examples from your data.

3. How is precipitation affected by elevation, latitude, or geography? Give specific examples.

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