

Geography Alive: Stage 2 Geography (Topic 1: Places are similar and different)

Lesson 1: Weather and Climate		
Content focus: In this lesson, students distinguish between weather and climate and start developing an awareness of the factors that determine the climate of places.		Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resource Sheet 1: Weather and Climate• Worksheet 1: Weather and climate
Key inquiry questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is the difference between weather and climate?• What factors determine the climate of places?	Outcomes: <i>A student:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• explains the difference between weather and climate• lists the six factors that influence the climate of places.	Lesson sequence: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Step 1: Show students two-three YouTube video clips depicting extreme weather events. Ask students what they see in the clips. What are the causes of such events?• Step 2: Using Resource Sheet 1, revise the difference between 'weather' and 'climate'. Note that weather is the state of the air around us (the atmosphere) at a particular point in time. Explain that climate is the weather expected at a particular place and time based on the historical record. For example, the average maximum and minimum temperature recorded over a period of time (usually 100 years).• Step 3: Introduce students to the notion that there are a number of factors that determine the weather and climate experienced by a place. These include: latitude, seasonal distances, aspect, altitude, distance from the sea, and mountain barriers. In this, and subsequent lessons, contextualise those factors that are relevant to the place in which the students live.• Step 4: Ask students to complete Worksheet 1. In doing so, they distinguish between weather and climate and note the principal factors responsible for the climate experienced by places.