

Climate Zone Reporter

GEOGRAPHY



Overview

Students become weather reporters for a specific climate zone, explaining its characteristics, typical weather patterns, and how people and animals adapt to living there.

Steps for Teachers

1. Introduce the major climate zones (tropical, dry, temperate, continental, polar)
2. Students select or are assigned a climate zone to research
3. Students research weather patterns, seasons, and living conditions
4. Students write a weather report script covering a full year
5. Students create a weather reporter character with appropriate backgrounds
6. Students record their climate zone report with weather graphics
7. Compare all climate zones in a class discussion

Example

A student reports on the tropical rainforest climate. Weather reporter character with jungle background: 'Reporting live from the Amazon! Here in the tropical zone, it's hot and humid every single day—about 80°F year-round. We get rain almost daily, sometimes 100 inches per year! That's why the plants here grow so tall. The animals have adapted too—see how this sloth moves slowly to stay cool? There are only two seasons here: wet and wetter!'

Grading Rubric

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Developing
Climate Accuracy	Accurate temperature, precipitation, and seasonal information	Mostly accurate climate data with minor errors	Significant inaccuracies about climate
Adaptation Examples	Shows how humans, plants, and animals adapt	Mentions some adaptations	Missing or incorrect adaptation examples
Reporter Style	Professional weather report format and delivery	Recognizable as weather report format	Doesn't follow weather report conventions
Seasonal Coverage	Explains yearly weather cycle comprehensively	Covers main seasonal patterns	Incomplete seasonal information