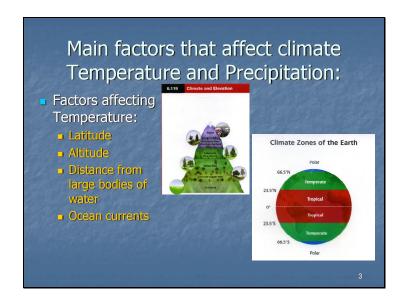
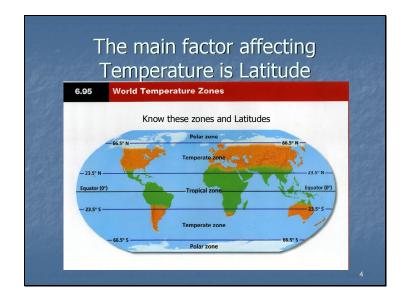
### **Earth Science**

Chapter 9
Climate & Climate Change

#### Section 9-1 What Causes Climate?

- Climate:
  - long term, average temperature, precipitation, winds & cloud cover in an area.
- Microclimate:
  - Small areas with climate conditions that differ from those around them



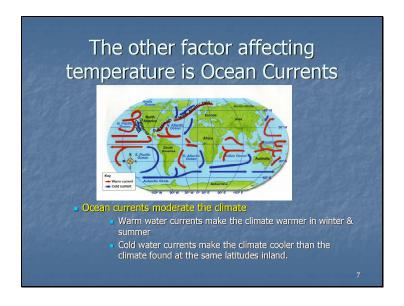




# The 2 main factors affecting temperature is Latitude & Altitude

- Generally speaking:
  - The higher the latitude the cooler the temp
    - 0° to 23.5° Tropical Zone: warm summer warm winter
    - 23.5° 66.5° Temperate Zone: warm summer/cold winter
    - 66.5° 90° Polar Zone: cool summer very cold winter
  - The higher the altitude the cooler the temp
    - Temps drop on average 6.5° for each kilometer rise in elevation

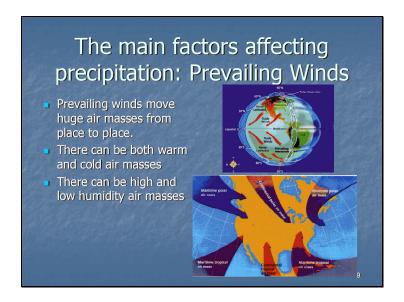
## The 2 other factors affecting temperature is distance from Oceans & types of Ocean Currents

- Generally speaking:
  - Large bodies of water
    - Water heats up slower but retains its heat better than land. Oceans moderate the climate around them.
    - Continental Climates have warm/hot summers & colder winters.
    - Marine climates have cool summers & warmer winter

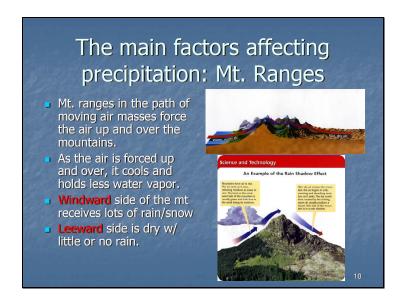



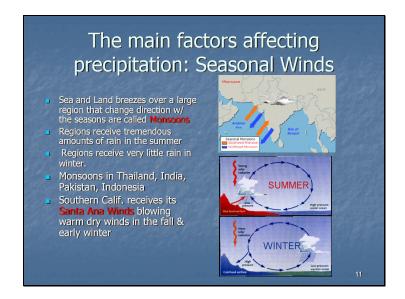

### The main factors affecting precipitation:

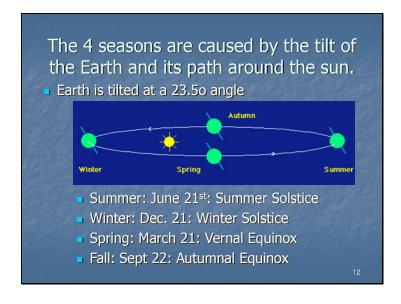
- Prevailing winds
- Presence of mountains
- Seasonal winds

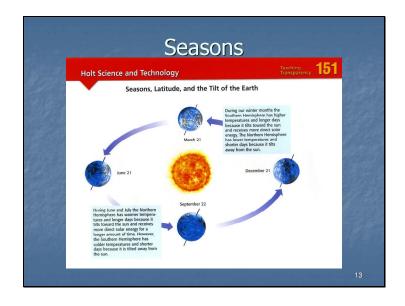



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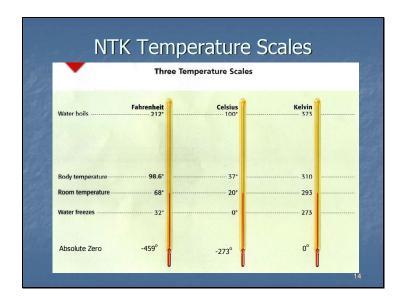




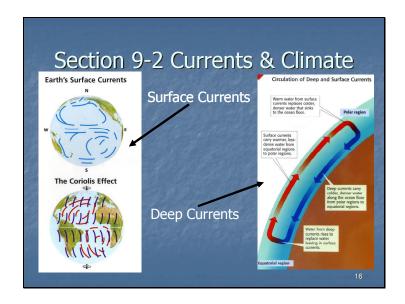
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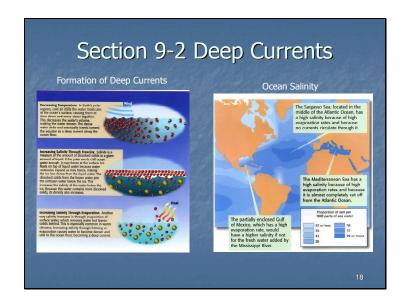
#### Section 9-2 Currents & Climate

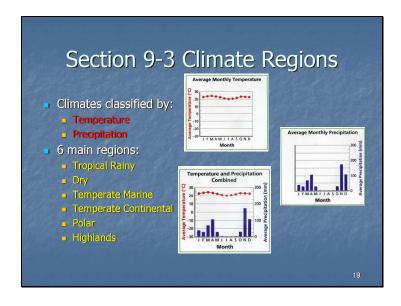
- Current
  - Large streams of moving water that flow through the oceans.
- Surface Current
  - Driven by winds affect water to depths of several hundred meters
  - The Coriolis Effect causes currents to curve to the right in Northern Hemisphere & left in the Southern Hemisphere.
  - The surface current warms or cools the air above it and influence the climate
  - El Nino causes warm water currents in eastern Pacific to replace normal cold water off Calif. coast. Produces heavy rain & severe weather conditions
  - La Nina Waters along Calif. coast are colder than normal.
     Produces heavy rain in Pacific northwest

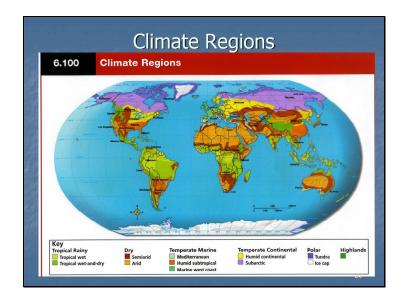




#### Section 9-2 Currents & Climate

- Current:
  - Large streams of moving water that flow through the oceans.
- Deen Current
  - Driven by different densities in water.
  - As ice forms (ice is made from freshwater) the water left behind is saltier
  - Increase in salinity causes an increase in density. (sinks)
  - Cold water is more dense than warm water. (sinks)
  - Global Conveyor Belt- deep currents move and mix water around the world. They carry cold water from the poles to the equator.
    - Movement is slow may take 1000 years to move from pole to equator.
  - Upwelling upward movement of deep cold water to replace warm water blown away by surface currents – high in nutrients.

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#### Climatic Regions

- **Tropical Rainy** low-lying lands near equator
  - Tropical Wet Year round heat w/ heavy rainfall- Rain forest, in US only found on windward side of Hawaiian Islands.
  - Tropical Wet and Dry distinct dry & rainy seasons. Savanna (tropical grasslands)
- Dry potential evaporation > potential precipitation (may be hot or cold)
  - Aric deserts have < 25 cm rain/year</p>
  - Semiarid a steppe —found on edge of deserts, dry but enough to grow grasses & low brush grasslands & prairies

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#### Climatic Regions

- **Temperate Marine** along coasts in temperate zone
  - Marine West Coast west coast of continents north & south of 40° latitude. Pacific northwest mild winters, Redwood forest. Associated w/ heavy precipitation
  - Mediterranean drier & warmer than West Coast Marine.

    Mild w/ 2 seasons summer (warm w/ little rain) & winter (cool w/ rainy weather) chaparral vegetation types
  - Humid Subtropical wet & warm (but not as hot as tropics) Summers are hot & humid w/ more rain than in the winters. SE USA, Florida, Georgia


#### Climatic Regions

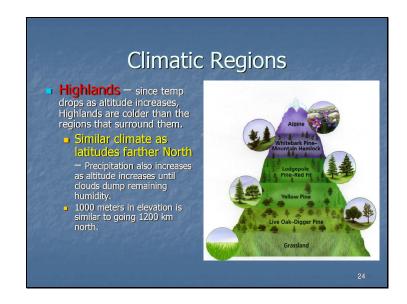
- Temperate Continental away from the affects of the oceans, commonly w/ extremes in temperature. Found only in North America.

  Humid Continental bitter cold winters from Polar air masses, summer brings heat & high humidity from tropical air masses. Found in the Northeast USA & Midwest

  Subgratic found north of the Humid Continental Region. Summers are very short and cool. Winters are long and bitterly cold.

  Polar coldest climate region- found only near the poles. Relatively dry because cold air holds little humidity

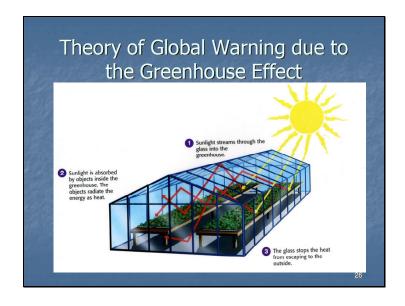
  Lee Cans Average temps are at or below freezing year round. Intense cold dry
- - Ice Caps Average temps are at or below freezing year round. Intense cold dry air. Only lichens and a few small plants grow on exposed rocks. Found only on Antarctica and northern Greenland.
  - Tundra Found in northern Alaska, Canada & Russia. Very short cool summers followed by intensely cold winters. Some layers of soil stay frozen year round. (Permafrost)


#### Section 9-4 Climate Change

- Global Warming: an increase of .7° C to the troposphere over the last 120 years.
   Theory based upon:
   Greenhouse gases Carbon dioxide, water vapor and methane
  - - Increased levels of CO<sub>2</sub> may be from man made
    - Industrial Revolution starts in the 1800's corresponds to the beginning of the rise in CO<sub>2</sub> levels.
    - Samples of CO<sub>2</sub> taken from ice cores in the Antarctic
  - Climate Variation Hypothesis: some say CO<sub>2</sub> increase NOT due human activities.
    - Some say variations in the output of the sun's energy is the cause of climate change.

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#### Section 9-4 Climate Change

- Ozone depletion:
  - Atmospheric ozone reflects harmful UV solar rays back into space, protecting Earth's inhabinants.
  - Chemicals produced by humans have been damaging the ozone
  - - ChlorofluorocarbonsThey rise into the stratosphere

    - Chlorine converts ozone into oxygen, depleting ozone

    - More UV hitting the surface can cause more damage –
       Increased Skin cancer
  - Environmental agreements stop use of CFCs and are fixing the

