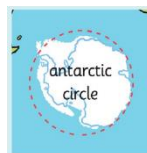
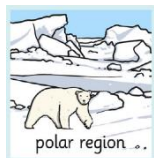
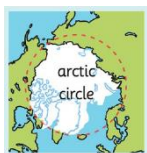
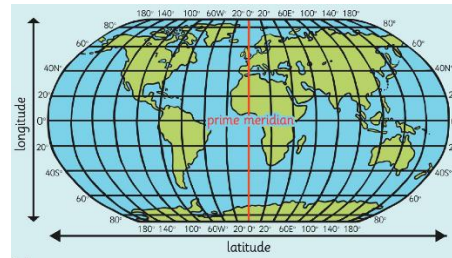
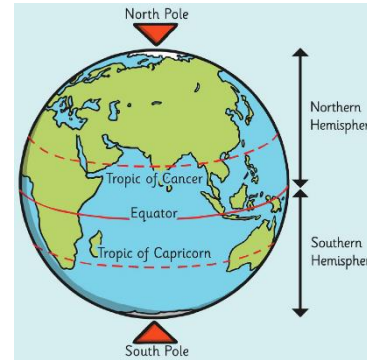


### Key Facts

- The Equator passes through 13 countries: Ecuador, Columbia, Brazil, Sao Tome & Principe, Gabon, Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Somalia, the Maldives, Indonesia and Kiribati.
- The Equator is 25,000 miles long.
- Each degree of latitude corresponds to a distance on the Earth's surface of about 111 km.
- Each degree of longitude, corresponds to a distance that varies with latitude. The distance is about 111 km at the Equator, reducing to 0 km at the Poles.
- Each 15° of longitude is equivalent to a difference in time of one hour.
- In the early 1800s, each part of the UK had its own local time. When it was midday local time in Bristol, it was already ten past twelve in London!
- In 184-5, train companies successfully introduced a single standard time, called Greenwich Mean Time, to help coordinate train timetables and avoid confusing passengers.
- Lines of longitudes (or meridians) aren't parallel; they cross over at the poles.
- About 99% of Antarctica is covered with a vast ice sheet. It is the largest single mass of ice on Earth and is bigger than the whole of Europe.
- The ice sheet covering Antarctica is at least 3 million years old and possibly as much as 30 million years old in places.
- 90% of the world's ice is found in Antarctica.
- At the North Pole, the ice is around 2m thick. It is around 2.5km thick at the South Pole!
- 5 million penguins live inside the Antarctic Circle but no humans live there permanently.
- 4 million people live inside the Arctic Circle.
- The lowest temperature ever recorded on Earth was -93.2 °C in Antarctica in August 2010.
- Antarctica is the world's driest continent.
- The tropics have monthly average temperatures of at least 18°C.



### Key Vocabulary

Spelling	Definition
Hemisphere	a half of the earth, usually as divided into northern and southern halves by the equator, or into western and eastern halves by an imaginary line passing through the poles.
Equator	a line notionally drawn on the earth equidistant from the poles, dividing the earth into northern and southern hemispheres and constituting the parallel of latitude 0°.
Continent	any of the world's main continuous expanses of land (Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America, Australia, Antarctica).
Ocean	One of the 5 largest areas of salt water in the world. (Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, Southern Ocean / Antarctic Ocean, Arctic Ocean).
Climate	the weather conditions prevailing in an area in general or over a long period.
Co-ordinates	each of a group of numbers used to indicate the position of a point, line, or plane.
Latitude	the distance north or south of the equator measured in degrees.
Longitude	distance measured in degrees east or west of an imaginary line that runs from the north pole to the south pole and passes through Greenwich, England.
Time Zone	Time zones give specific areas on the earth a time of day that is earlier or later than the neighboring time zones.
Tropic	the region of the Earth near to the equator and between the Tropic of Cancer in the northern hemisphere and the Tropic of Capricorn in the southern hemisphere.
Prime Meridian	the imaginary line that divides Earth into two equal parts: the Eastern Hemisphere and the Western Hemisphere.