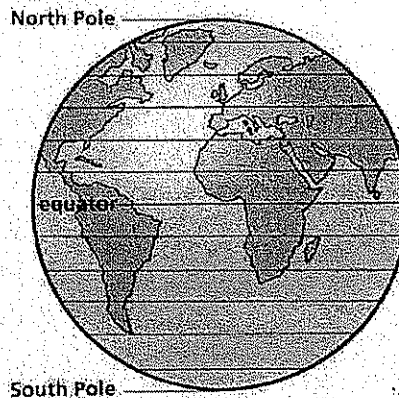


Name: _____ Date: _____

Physical Science Notes 16 Lines of Latitude and Longitude

Latitude

- Lines of latitude are imaginary lines that run in an West-East direction around the earth.
 - They are completely man-made, but can help us to understand the Earth better.



- 0° latitude is known as the equator.
- 90° N latitude is known as the North Pole.
- 90° S latitude is known as the South Pole.
- We are at about $42-43^{\circ}$ N

The Tropics

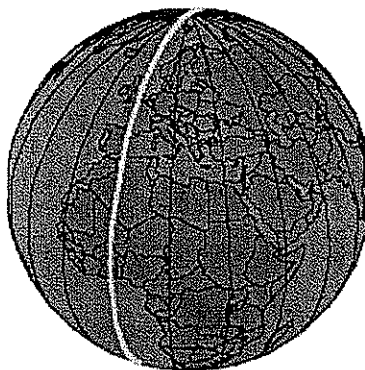
- At about 23° N lies a line of latitude that we call the Tropic of Cancer.
On June 21, or the summer solstice, the sun is directly overhead of this latitude at noon.
- At about 23° S lies the latitude that we call the Tropic of Capricorn.

On December 21, or the winter solstice, the sun is directly overhead of this latitude at noon.

- Everything in between these two lines is known as the tropics, and it is here where the summer season is felt all year long.
- As latitude increases from the tropics (either to the North or the South), the climate becomes more temperate, or seasonal, and generally colder.

Longitude

- Lines of longitude are imaginary lines running in a North - South direction around the Earth.
- 0° longitude is known as the prime meridian.
 - This line runs through the town of Greenwich, England and is sometimes referred to as the Greenwich Meridian.



- Lines of longitude begin at 0° and then increase either West or East until they reach 180° .
 - 180° E and 180° W are the same line.
 - We are at about 76° W.