

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### The Climate of Ghana

There are nine different patterns of climate in the world. Climates are determined by temperature and rainfall. Different areas may have the same average temperature and rainfall, but a different kind of climate. This is due to seasonal variations in rainfall.

The climate in most of Ghana is wet and dry tropical. Wet and dry tropical climates are marked by warm to hot temperatures throughout the year, and abundant rainfall in the wet season. This condition is especially noticeable in northern Ghana, because of the abundant rainfall and the strictly seasonal nature of the rain. Although this region receives 40-60 inches of rain annually, severe dry spells exist from November to March. Accra receives 40-60 inches of rain annually, characteristic of savanna regions. The climate of the West Coast of Africa, Central and Eastern Africa is characterized by distinct rainy seasons and dry seasons (wet and dry tropical climate).

A second climate region exists in southwestern Ghana. It has a rainy season and warm temperatures throughout the year and abundant rainfall (over 80 inches annually) throughout the year. Ghana has warm to hot temperatures throughout the year because of its proximity to the equator and its relatively low elevation. The average temperature in Accra, Ghana is 80 degrees Fahrenheit (27 degrees Celsius). The northern part of Ghana has hotter temperatures and some seasonal temperature variations because of the moderating influence of the ocean, and closest to the Sahara Desert.

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