

**Climate and Climate Change** ▪ *Review and Reinforce*

# What Causes Climate?

## Understanding Main Ideas

On a separate sheet of paper, identify the climate factor(s) that influence the climate in each picture. Indicate whether the climate factors are affecting temperature, precipitation, or both.



1. Alaska



2. Rocky Mountains



3. West Coast

Answer the following questions on your other sheet of paper.

4. Explain how Earth's tilted axis causes the seasons.
5. At what times of the year do both of Earth's hemispheres receive the same amount of energy from the sun? Explain why this occurs.

## Building Vocabulary

Match each term with its definition by writing the letter of the correct definition on the line beside the term.

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|---------------------------|--|
| _____ 6. leeward          | a. the average year-after-year conditions of temperature, precipitation, winds, and clouds |
| _____ 7. polar zones      | b. an area near the equator that receives direct sunlight all year round                   |
| _____ 8. climate          | c. the side of a mountain that faces the oncoming wind                                     |
| _____ 9. windward         | d. a small area with climate conditions different from those around it                     |
| _____ 10. tropical zone   | e. areas that extend from about 66.5° to 90° north and south latitudes                     |
| _____ 11. microclimate    | f. the side of a mountain that is downwind   |
| _____ 12. temperate zones | g. sea and land breezes over a large region that change direction with the season          |
| _____ 13. monsoon         | h. areas located from about 23.5° to 66.5° north and south latitudes                       |