DISCOVERING GALAPAGOS

GALAPAGOS CLIMATE WORKSHEET 1/3

Take a look at how the difference in weather across locations in the British Isles over the past week.

Here are a few examples of places you could choose to research:

For each of your chosen locations, look at the changes over the four seasons by answering the following questions:

1. What is the maximum and minimum temperature for the year?
2. What is the temperature range (the difference between the warmest and the coldest month)?
3. What is the total rainfall?
4. Which is the wettest month?
5. Which is the driest month?
6. Which months have the most rainfall? What season is this?

UK Map by Ted Grajeda of the Noun Project

Your next task is to look at how weather differs on the Galapagos Islands. Your task is to investigate the climate graphs created from data recorded in **Puerto Ayora** and **Bellavista** (both on Santa Cruz Island). Then, answer the following questions:

1. What is the maximum and minimum temperature for the year?
2. What is the temperature range (the difference between the warmest and the coldest month)?
3. What is the total rainfall?
4. Which is the wettest month?
5. Which is the driest month?
6. Which months have the most rainfall? What season is this?

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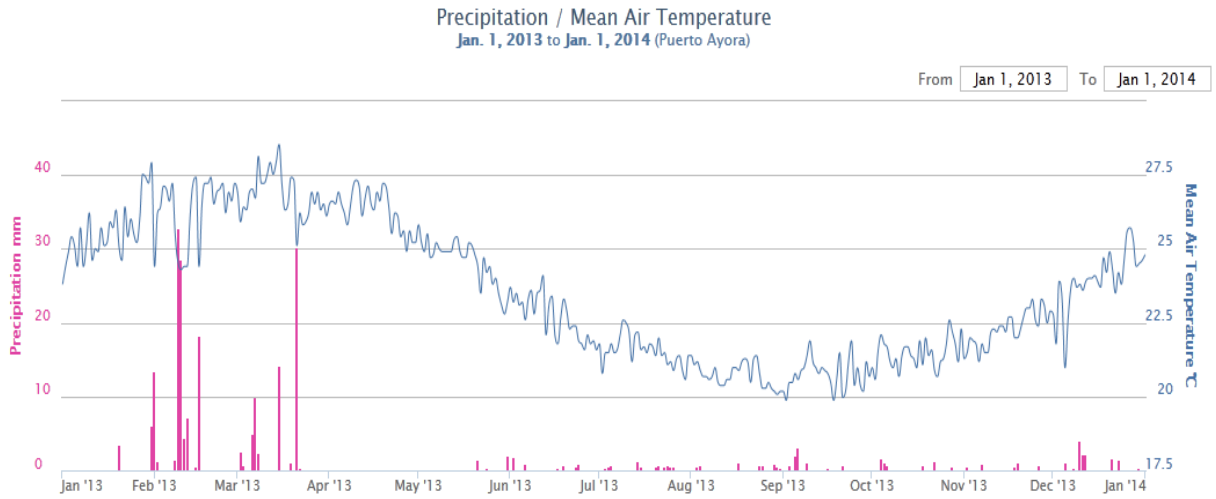
GALAPAGOS CLIMATE WORKSHEET 2/3

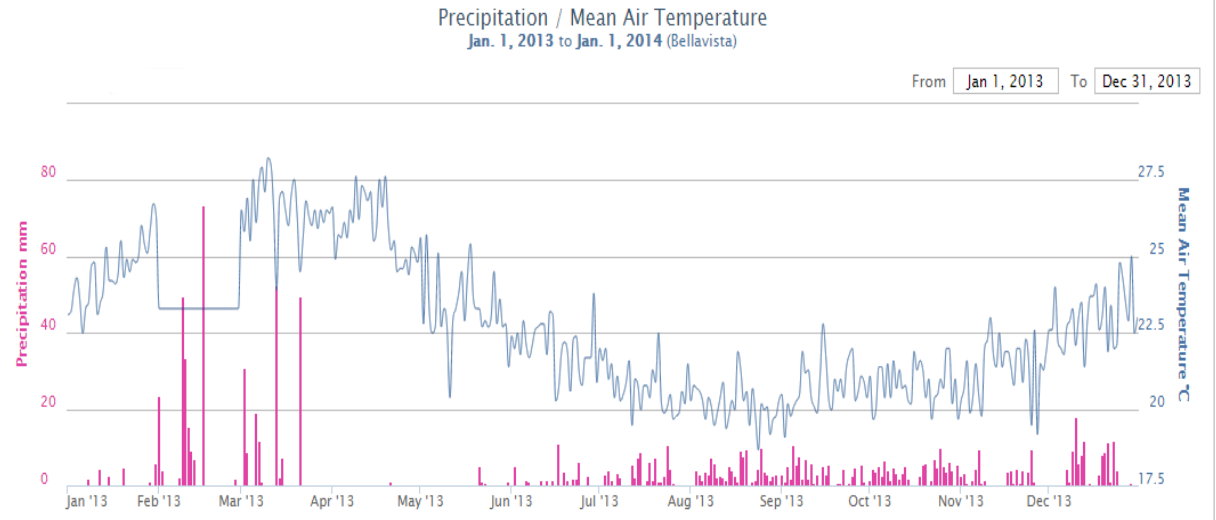
Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz Island

With over 12,000 inhabitants, Puerto Ayora has the biggest population of all settlements across the Galapagos Islands. Puerto Ayora is a port town and many tourists visiting Galapagos stop off here to visit the Charles Darwin Research Station or to partake in many of the other tourist activities such as horseback riding and dive trips.



Bellavista Santa Cruz Island

Bellavista is a small town situated approximately 7km away from Puerto Ayora. Bellavista is quickly developing as a commuter town for Islanders who work in Puerto Ayora.



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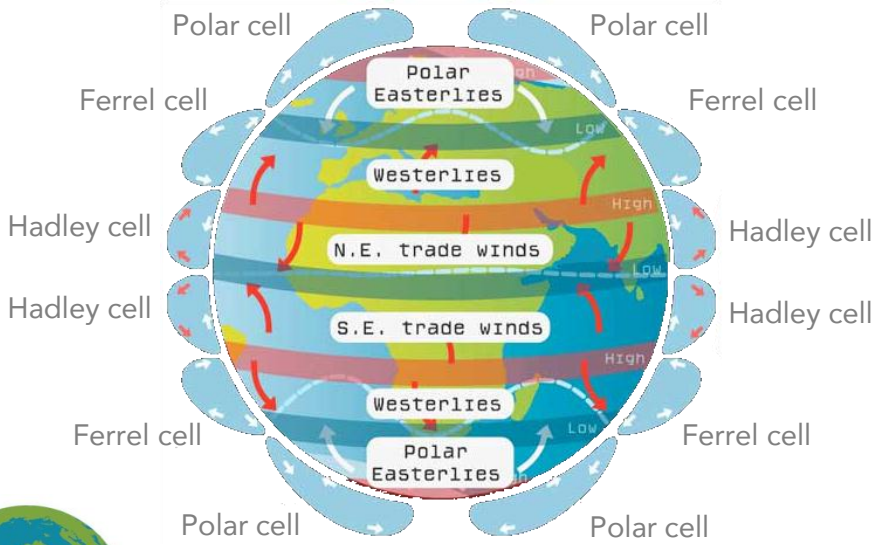
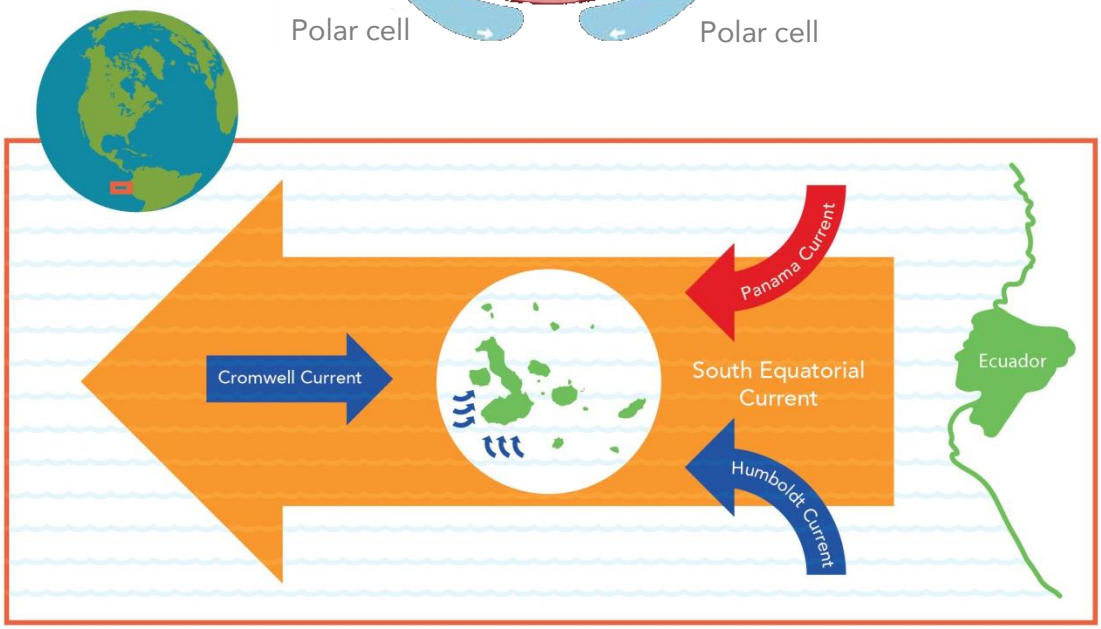
DISCOVERING GALAPAGOS

GALAPAGOS CLIMATE WORKSHEET 3/3

The diagram below is of the earth's atmospheric circulation pattern. The ITCZ (Inter Tropical Convergence Zone) is located at the Equator. Here, surface winds converge and then rise taking moisture with them usually causing convection rainfall. Due to the tilt of the Earth, the zone moves seasonally between the Tropic of Cancer in the north and the Tropic of Capricorn in the south. This takes the rising air with it so there are two seasons. Usually, the land at the Equator always has some rising air and some rainfall. Using the Discovering Galapagos website and ocean currents map below, *why do you think there are dry seasons and wet seasons in Galapagos?.*





World Climate System Map adapted from Discovering the Arctic (www.discoveringthearctic.org.uk)

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