



NEVADA CLIMATE CHANGE PORTAL

Climograph Investigation

Grade: 9th – 12th

Objective:

The purpose of this investigation is to be able to read and interpret a climograph.

Materials:

Climographs of each transect measurement station.

Important Terms:

Climograph

Diving question:

What essential information does a climograph display and how can this information be used to better understand climate?

Background Information

Data from the transect measurement stations has been collected since the spring of 2011. Climographs are usually made using data that has been collected over a long time period (usually 30 or more years). This discrepancy results in the climographs based on transect data exhibiting more variability than would be expected, especially in the precipitation curves. These graphs were made in 2012. As more years of data are gathered the extent to which these graphs represent climate will improve.

Investigation:

- 1) Examine the seven climographs. What information on the graph indicates that all of the stations are in the northern hemisphere? Explain.
- 2) Are there any trends to the temperature data? If so, describe the trends.
- 3) Are there any trends to the precipitation data? If so, describe the trends.
- 4) Examine a map of world climates. Use the maps' legend to give each of the transect measurement stations a three-letter climatic description.
- 5) Explain your choice of the three letters to describe the transect station's climate.







