

Canada's Natural Systems: Ecozones and National Parks

As one of the largest countries on the globe, Canada has a variety of landscapes and seascapes. The Canadian government has identified fifteen distinct areas on land ([terrestrial](#)) and five in the water ([marine](#)) that are ecologically and environmentally unique. We refer to each of these areas as an **ecozone**. It is the goal of the government and [Parks Canada](#) to recognize and protect a small area of each **ecozone**. Areas of land have been set-aside in each ecozone as [national parks](#) to ensure government control. In this culminating activity, you will become an expert on one of Canada's [national parks](#).

In order to gather information about the park, you will need to complete some research on the associated ecozone to get a sense of the characteristics of that particular ecozone. Each ecozone has common features of landforms, water, soils, vegetation, climate, wildlife and various human uses that are ecologically related.

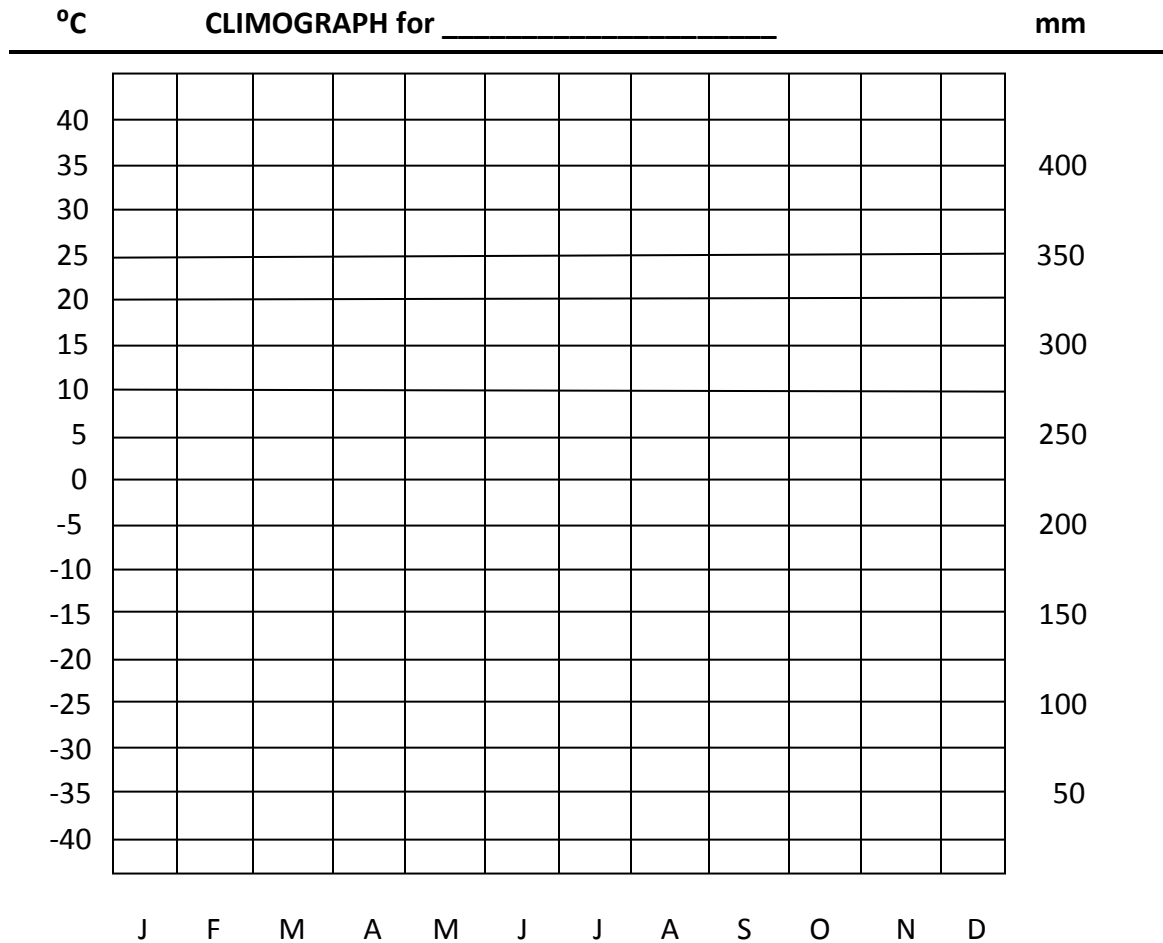
Your research for this assignment will include many sources, not exclusive to:

- + [Making Connections](#) pp. 158-163
- + [Contact Canada](#) pp. 68-75
- + [Oxford 7th Edition Atlas](#) p. 17, p. 208
- + <http://parkscanada.ca>
- + <http://canadianbiodiversity.mcgill.ca>
- + <http://www.ccea.org/>

PART 1: Researching Your Ecozone

1. The name of my national park is _____.
2. It is located in the province/territory of _____.
3. It is located in the ecozone named _____.

4. Complete a [climograph](#) that represents a community/city in your ecozone. Include the climatic statistics and the name of the city/community with your climograph.



Annual Average temperature: _____ °C

Total Annual Precipitation: _____ mm

Annual Range of Temperature: _____ °C

To create your climograph, follow these steps:

1. visit <http://www.weathernetwork.com>
2. in the city search box, type in 'statistics' followed by the name of your city
3. use the 'average temperature' and 'monthly precipitation' data to complete the climograph (be sure you are using [metric](#) numbers)

6. Identify at least six plant species that can be found in your ecozone.

a) _____ b) _____

c) _____ d) _____

e) f)

7. Identify at least six species under each of the following areas:

On Land	In Water	In Air
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.
5.	5.	5.
6.	6.	6.

8. Humans are having an impact on the ecozones. Describe at least two human activities that are impacting your chosen ecozone. The impacts can be positive or negative.

1) _____

2) _____

PART 2: Promoting your National Park

Once you have completed your research, promote your National Park by completing any one of the four options included.

A: Complete an information package for your National Park.

- Describe for people what they might see if they were to visit your National Park. Remember to include information that describes all of the characteristics that defined your ecozone. (landscape, climate, vegetation, wildlife, soils and human impact) Pictures would be very helpful in supporting the write up.
- This could be completed as a power point presentation or a [Prezi](https://prezi.com). To sign up for an account go to <http://www.prezi.com>; all you need is your name, an email address and a password. You could also complete a pamphlet or a brochure for your final product.

B: Completion of a souvenir item that represents your park

- This item would promote and educate people about your National park. Tee-shirts, coffee mugs and sweet treats are merchandise that could carry a message about your special ecozone.
- Illustrate at least 4 of the characteristics of your ecozone on the souvenir item. (landscape, climate, vegetation, wildlife, soils and human impact)
- Provide a brief written description explaining how the design of your merchandise truly reflects the national park.

C: Writing a song about your National Park.

- the song must be at least three verses and one chorus
- Include information about the park/ecozone. Some of the topics you can consider might be the people that you have met, the landscapes that make up your park, the different vegetation and wildlife that you have seen, or the strange and beautiful climate you have experienced
- If you put your lyrics to music or if you complete a CD cover that represents your song, grade levels increase.

D: Completing a Bitstrip comic for series for a National Newspaper. The Bitstrip software can be accessed at <http://www.bitstripsforschools.com>

You will have to complete your comic using at least 12 frames. The comic should have a storyline or theme that promotes your National Park. Illustrate at least 4 of the characteristics of your ecozone in the comic: landscape, climate, vegetation, wildlife, soils and human impact.

An Alphabetical List of National Parks in Canada

Aulavik National Park of Canada

Over 12,000 km² of arctic wilderness on Banks Island.

Auyuittuq National Park of Canada

Baffin Island landscapes containing northern extremity of Canadian Shield.

Banff National Park of Canada

UNESCO World Heritage Site and Canada's first National Park of Canada (1885).

Bruce Peninsula National Park of Canada

Landscapes including the northern end of Niagara Escarpment.

Cape Breton Highlands National Park of Canada

Home to Cabot Trail, a land blessed with spectacular cliffs.

Elk Island National Park of Canada

Alberta plains oasis for rare and endangered species.

Forillon National Park of Canada

The "Jewel of the Gaspé" where land meets sea.

Fundy National Park of Canada

Atlantic's sanctuary with world's highest tides.

Georgian Bay Islands National Park of Canada

Captivating islands representing Lake Huron's landscape.

Glacier National Park of Canada

British Columbia's lush interior rainforest and permanent glaciers.

Grasslands National Park of Canada

Saskatchewan's rare prairie grasses, dinosaur fossils, and badlands.

Gros Morne National Park of Canada

UNESCO World Heritage Site amid Newfoundland's wild natural beauty.

Gulf Islands National Park Reserve of Canada

An exceptional coastal island landscape in the southern Strait of Georgia.

Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site

Haïda culture and coastal rainforest on Queen Charlotte Islands.

Ivvavik National Park of Canada

Calving ground for the Porcupine caribou herd.

Jasper National Park of Canada

UNESCO World Heritage Site and glacial jewel of the Rockies.

Kejimikujik National Park of Canada

Nova Scotia's inland of historic canoe routes and portages.

Kluane National Park and Reserve of Canada

Yukon's UNESCO World Heritage Site contains Canada's highest peak.

Kootenay National Park of Canada

UNESCO World Heritage Site featuring the famous Radium Hot Springs.

Kouchibouguac National Park of Canada

Intricate Acadian blend of coastal and inland habitats.

La Mauricie National Park of Canada

Lakes winding through forested hills for canoe and portage activities.

Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada

A string of islands carved out by the sea.

Mount Revelstoke National Park of Canada

Rainforest of 1,000-year-old cedars and spectacular mountains.

Nahanni National Park Reserve of Canada

Northwest Territories' UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Pacific Rim National Park Reserve of Canada

Pacific Coast Mountains make up this marine and forest environment.

Point Pelee National Park of Canada

Most southern point on Canadian mainland.

Prince Albert National Park of Canada

Protects slice of northern coniferous forest and wildlife.

Prince Edward Island National Park of Canada

A protected area with spectacular coast.

Pukaskwa National Park of Canada

Canadian Shield's ancient landscape on Superior's North Shore.

Quttinirpaaq National Park of Canada

Most remote, fragile, rugged and northerly lands in North America.

Riding Mountain National Park of Canada

Protected "island" area in the Manitoba Escarpment.

Sirmilik National Park of Canada

Northern Baffin Island landscape containing Eastern Arctic Lowlands and Lancaster Sound.

St. Lawrence Islands National Park of Canada

Established in 1904.

Terra Nova National Park of Canada

Remnants of the Eastern Newfoundland Ancient Appalachian Mountains.

Torngat Mountains National Park of Canada

The spectacular wilderness of this National Park comprises 9,700 km² of the Northern Labrador Mountains natural region.

Tuktut Nogait National Park of Canada

Calving ground for the Bluenose caribou herd.

Ukkusiksalik National Park of Canada

The place where there is stone that can be used to carve pots and oil lamps

Vuntut National Park of Canada

Northern Yukon's unique non-glaciated landscape.

Wapusk National Park of Canada

One of the largest polar bear denning areas in the world.

Waterton Lakes National Park of Canada

International Peace Park; where the Rocky Mountains meet the prairie.

Wood Buffalo National Park of Canada

UNESCO World Heritage Site larger than Switzerland.

Yoho National Park of Canada

UNESCO World Heritage Site in Rockies.

CGC1P/1D – National Parks/Ecozones – May 2012

K/U Has knowledge of the ecozone and <i>accurately</i> reflects this knowledge. Has knowledge of the features of national park.	Inadequate knowledge of the ecozone. Insufficient knowledge of features in national park.	Minimal knowledge of the ecozone. Limited knowledge of features in national park.	Adequate knowledge of the ecozone. Acceptable knowledge of features in national park.	Solid knowledge of the ecozone. Extensive knowledge of features in national park.	Impressive knowledge of the ecozone. Outstanding knowledge of features in national park.
	Level R	1- 1 1+	2- 2 2+	3- 3 3+	4- 4 4+
T/I A valid connection between ecozone and park. Logical connection between videos, images and text. Extensive inquiry made into varied sources.	No connection between ecozone and park. No evident connection between videos, images and text. No inquiry made into varied sources.	Weak connection between ecozone and park. A loose connection between videos, images and text. Weak effort to inquire into varied sources.	Adequate connection between ecozone and park. Adequate connection between videos, images and text. Attempt made to inquire into varied sources.	Solid connection between ecozone and park. Adequate connection between videos, images and text. Solid effort to inquire into varied sources.	Impressive connection between ecozone and park. Notable connection between videos, images and text. Excellent effort to inquire into varied sources.
	Level R	1- 1 1+	2- 2 2+	3- 3 3+	4- 4 4+
COMM. Theme is appropriate for topic. Path is organized, valid and easy to follow. Videos and images are of a good quality and supportive. Standard English is adhered to.	No theme. No logical path. Inadequate number of videos and images or videos and images are not supportive. Sub-par diction. Riddled with mechanical errors.	Theme is inappropriate for topic. Path is difficult to follow. Adequate number of videos and images but they are not supportive. Diction is distracting; major mechanical errors	Theme is adequate for topic. Audience is able to follow path. Adequate videos and images that are placed logically. Diction is passable. Major and minor mechanical errors.	Theme is effective. Path is logical and guiding. Videos and images are placed with the audience in mind. Diction is level appropriate. Few, minor mechanical errors.	Theme is perfectly chosen. Path is flawless. Videos and images are perfectly positioned with the audience in mind. Diction is impeccable. No mechanical errors.
	Level R	1- 1 1+	2- 2 2+	3- 3 3+	4- 4 4+
APPL. Process evidence of conferencing, revising and editing.	No evidence of process work.	Incomplete evidence of process work.	Minimal evidence of process work.	Much evidence of process work.	Thorough evidence of process work.
	Level R	1- 1 1+	2- 2 2+	3- 3 3+	4- 4 4+