

Different Heat Zones of the Earth

Torrid Zone

1. This is also referred to as Tropical zone. The Tropics is a region on the Earth surrounding Equator by the Tropic of Cancer in the northern hemisphere at $23^{\circ}26'16''$ N (approx) and the Tropic of Capricorn in the southern hemisphere at $23^{\circ} 26' 16''$ S (approx). The Tropics include all the areas on the Earth where the sun reaches a point directly overhead at least once in a year.
2. This area receives maximum heat and is called the Torrid (hot) Zone.

Frigid Zone

1. Near the polar regions, the rays of the Sun are very slanting and so it is very cold.
2. The region / area between the Arctic Circle and the North Pole in the Northern Hemisphere is called the Frigid Zone.
3. There are similar regions in the Southern Hemisphere between the Antarctic Circle and the South Pole, also called the Frigid Zone (frigid means cold).

Rotation of the Earth

1. The Earth spins (rotates), west to east on its axis once in 24 hours approximately.
2. The Earth's axis is not vertical. It makes an angle of $23^{\circ} 30'$ with the vertical or $66^{\circ} 30'$ with the plane of the Earth's orbit.
3. The Earth's axis always remains pointed in the same direction (towards the Pole Star) as the Earth moves around the Sun. The tilt of the Earth's axis is known as the inclination of the Earth's axis.