

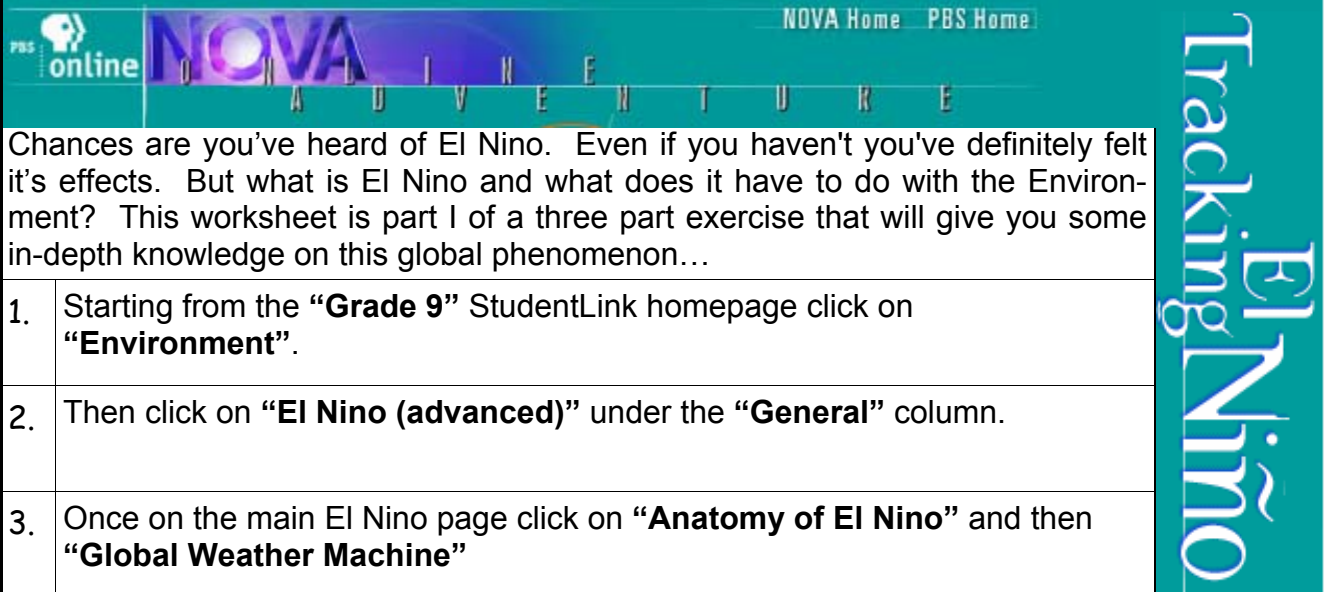
Student Link

Lesson Activity for Grade 9 (Environment : General) Part I: Anatomy of El Nino

PAGE
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Student Name:

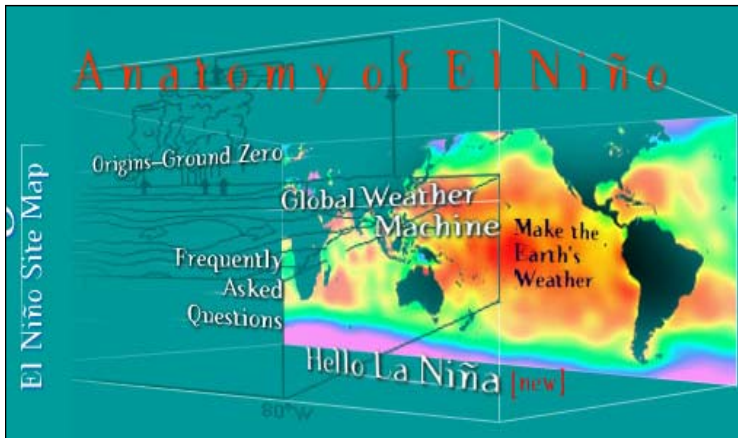
INSTRUCTIONS



Chances are you've heard of El Nino. Even if you haven't you've definitely felt it's effects. But what is El Nino and what does it have to do with the Environment? This worksheet is part I of a three part exercise that will give you some in-depth knowledge on this global phenomenon...

1. Starting from the "Grade 9" StudentLink homepage click on "Environment".
2. Then click on "El Nino (advanced)" under the "General" column.
3. Once on the main El Nino page click on "Anatomy of El Nino" and then "Global Weather Machine"

Tracking El Niño



Read through the weather description and answer the following questions:

What one constant thing can be said about weather patterns?

Why are weather patterns said to be cyclical? How does the Earth's rotation affect this pattern?

After reading about the global weather machine, explain in your own words how it works.

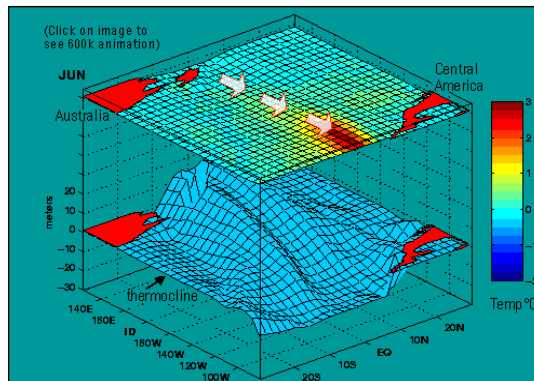
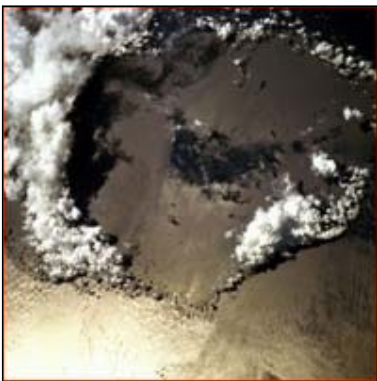
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Lesson Activity for Grade (*Environment* : General) Part I Part I: Anatomy of El Nino

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The “Coriolis” effect plays a large part in the Global Weather Machine. At the bottom of the page, click on “**Resources**” and then “**El Nino Glossary**” to get the definition of this term.

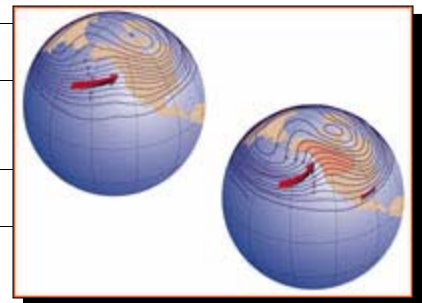
Follow the links at the bottom of the Glossary page to go back to “**Anatomy of El Nino**”. Once you’re there click on “**Origins – Ground Zero**”



Read through the page to get more in-depth knowledge of El Nino and try out the animation. When you’re done answer the following questions:

What do scientists think trigger the El Niño build-up effect?

How have scientists tracked the appearance of El-Nino through time?



List some of the events that may occur if El-Nino appears.

So far you’ve read about the “Global Weather Machine” and how El-Nino is like a heat engine, all having a cyclical or re-occurring characteristic. In what ways do you think humans have impacted the Earth’s climate and disrupted these phenomenon?