# UNIT 1: WATER SYSTEMS ON EARTH

**CHAPTER 3** 

## **HEAT CAPACITY**

- HEAT CAPACITY (SPECIFIC HEAT CAPACITY) IS THE AMOUNT OF HEAT THAT A SUBSTANCE CAN
   HOLD
- WATER HAS A HIGH HEAT CAPACITY IT CAN TAKE IN A LARGE AMOUNT OF HEAT BEFORE ITS TEMPERATURE IS RAISED EVEN A LITTLE BIT.
- THIS MEANS THAT LARGE BODIES OF WATER (SUCH AS LAKES, RIVERS AND OCEAN) CAN ACT AS HEAT RESERVOIRS (I.E. THEY HOLD A LOT OF HEAT) IN THE WINTER BECAUSE THEY STAY WARMER THAN THE AIR/LAND AROUND THEM.
- THIS CAN CAUSE CHANGES IN THE OVERALL CLIMATE OF AN AREA: THE WEATHER SYSTEMS

NEAR THE SHORELINE CAN PRODUCE BREEZES THAT CHANGE THE EVAPORATION/CONDENSATION NEAR THE SHORE.

# OCEANS, CLIMATE, & CONVECTION CURRENTS

- AS THE SUN HEATS THE SURFACE OF THE OCEAN, HEAT IS TRANSFERRED TO THE AIR ABOVE IT, MAKING AIR LESS DENSE, SO IT WILL START TO RISE
- WHEN THE AIR RISES UP SO FAR IT WILL START COOLING DOWN, BECOME MORE DENSE, AND SINK
- ONCE IT REACHES THE OCEAN AGAIN IT STARTS TO HEAT UP, AND THEN THE WHOLE CYCLE STARTS OVER THIS IS CALLED A CONVECTION CURRENT
- THIS AIR MOVEMENT (CALLED TRADE WINDS) CAN HAPPEN OVER HUGE DISTANCES, AIR THAT IS HEATED NEAR THE EQUATOR CAN DROP BACK DOWN MUCH FURTHER AWAY

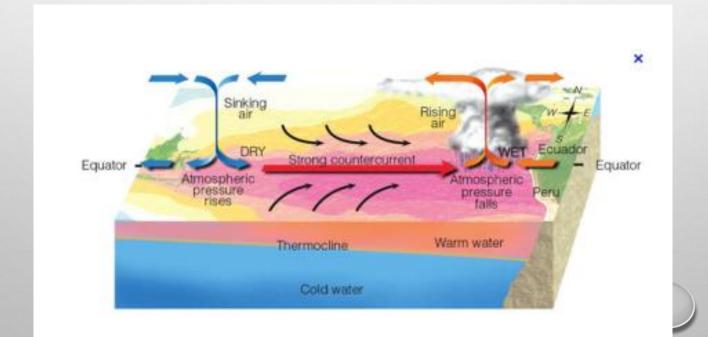
# NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR CLIMATE

- THE RAPIDLY CHANGING WEATHER PATTERNS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR ARE
  INFLUENCED BY THE INTERACTION OF THE LABRADOR CURRENT AND THE GULF STREAM
  - WARM SURFACE CURRENTS TRANSFER TROPICAL HEAT TO THE ATMOSPHERE AND COLDER
    CURRENTS REMOVE HEAT FROM THE ATMOSPHERE WHEN THE WARM, MOIST AIR ABOVE THE
    GULF STREAM BLOWS OVER THE COLDER WATER OF THE LABRADOR CURRENT, IT COOLS AND
    CONDENSES, PRODUCING FOG!!!
  - THEREFORE, TEMPERATURE FLUCTUATIONS OCCUR RAPIDLY IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR DUE TO OUR LOCATION BETWEEN WARM, TROPICAL WINDS MOVING NORTH AND COLD, ARCTIC WINDS MOVING SOUTH
  - LOCAL ATMOSPHERIC TEMPERATURES DEPEND ON WHICH OF THE WINDS PREVAIL

Fog Video Clip

# **EL NINO**

- PACIFIC TRADE WINDS MOVE WARM SURFACE WATER TO DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE WORLD,
   THIS CAUSES COOLER WATER TO RISE UP FROM THE BOTTOM TO TAKE IT'S PLACE
- SOMETIMES THE TRADE WINDS SLOW DOWN, LEAVING A LOT OF WARM WATER IN THE TOP LAYER OF THE OCEAN, THEN SPEED BACK UP AGAIN
- IF THE WINDS DO NOT SPEED BACK UP AGAIN, THE WATER GETS WARMER AND WARMER, AND DOES NOT MOVE AWAY CAUSING WARMER THAN NORMAL WEATHER

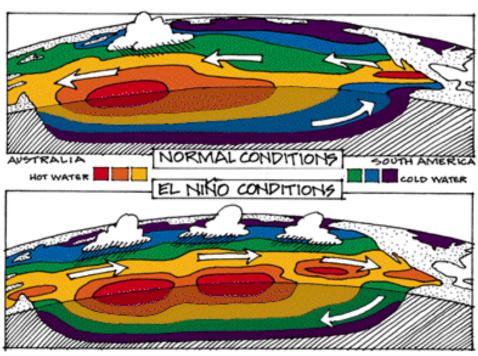


### **EFFECTS OF EL NINO**

- THE WARMER THAN USUAL WATER CHANGES WEATHER PATTERNS
- EL NINO CAN CREATE DROUGHTS IN SOME AREAS OF THE WORLD (LIKE AUSTRALIA, AFRICA, AND CENTRAL AMERICA) AND FLOODS OR BAD STORMS IN OTHER AREAS (LIKE PERU, CHILE, AND THE WEST COAST OF NORTH

AMERICA)

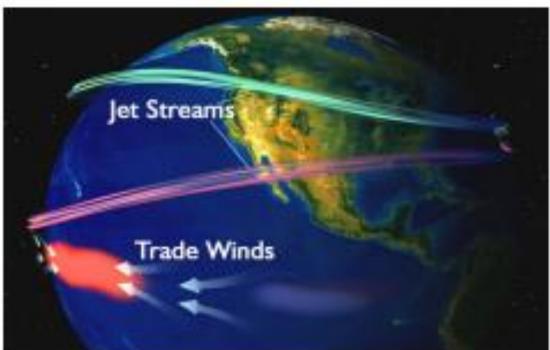
• THIS HAPPENS EVERY 3-7 YEARS!!!



## LA NINA

- LA NINA OFTEN HAPPENS AFTER EL NINO.
- THE PACIFIC TRADE WINDS START TO SPEED UP AGAIN, AND CAUSES NONSTOP UPWELLING
   OF COLD WATER AS THE WARM WATER IS PUSHED AWAY
- LA NINA CAUSES HEAVY RAIN IN SOME AREAS (AUSTRALIA, AFRICA AND SOUTH AMERICA)
  AND REALLY GOOD FISHING BECAUSE OF THE INCREASE IN UPWELLING.

Video Clip on El Nino & La Nina



# **EL NINO VS. LA NINA**

	El Nino	La Nina
Trade Winds	Decrease	Increase
Ocean Temperature	Warming (decrease Upwelling)	Cooling (Increase Upwelling)
Marine Productivity	Decreases (Decreased Nutrients)	Increases (Increased Nutrients)



# **PRACTICE**

- BOOKWORK: PAGE 89 Q'S 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
- WATER AND CLIMATE ASSIGNMENT

# **BIOINDICATOR SPECIES**

- SPECIES THAT ARE FOUND IN AND AROUND WATER SYSTEMS CAN HELP US DETERMINE HOW HEALTHY THE WATER IS (THE **QUALITY** OF THE WATER)
- WE CALL THESE SPECIES **BIOINDICATOR SPECIES** BECAUSE THEY HELP TO "INDICATE" THE HEALTH OF THE WATER SYSTEM





# **EXAMPLES OF BIOINDICATOR SPECIES:**



FOR EXTRA INFO ON BIOINDICATORS... GO TO

HTTP://WWW.SCIENCELEARN.ORG.NZ/CONTEXTS/ENVIRO-IMPRINTS/SCIENCE-IDEAS-AND-CONCEPTS/BIOINDICATORS

# ABIOTIC (NON-LIVING) FACTORS THAT AFFECT PLANT AND ANIMAL DISTRIBUTION:

#### 1. TEMPERATURE

• DIFFERENT SPECIES PREFER DIFFERENT TEMPERATURES.

#### 2. DISSOLVED OXYGEN

COLDER WATER CONTAINS MORE DISSOLVED OXYGEN.



#### 3. PHOSPHATES

 ESSENTIAL NUTRIENT FOR LIVING THINGS BUT TOO MUCH (FROM POLLUTION) CAN BE DETRIMENTAL.



#### 4. INCREASED ACIDITY

• ACID PRECIPITATION (DUE TO AIR POLLUTION) FALLS INTO THE WATER.

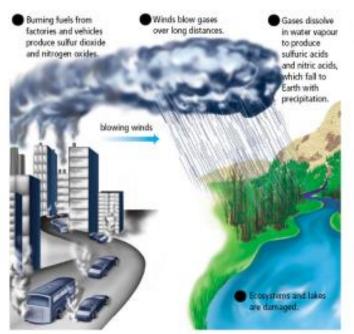
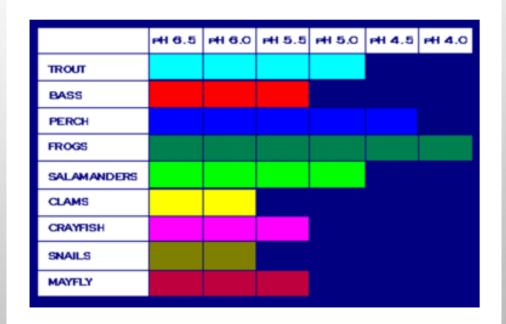
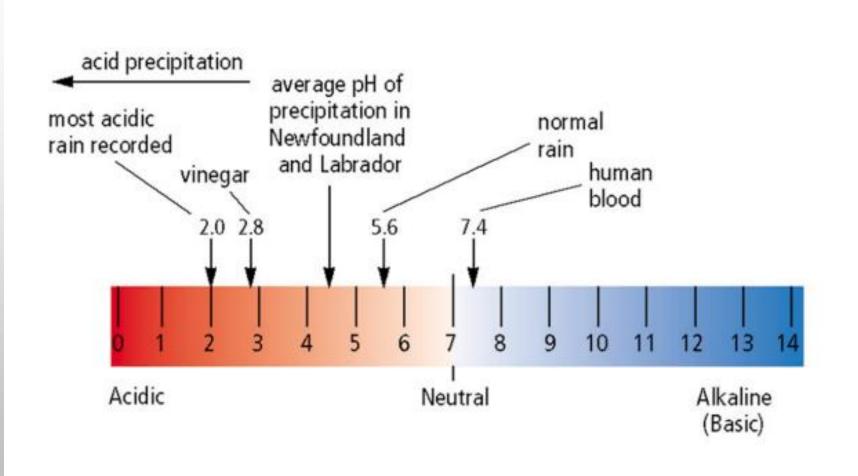


Figure 3.14 Polluting gases enter water systems when acid precipitation is produced.

 ORGANISMS HAVE AN ACIDITY COMFORT-LEVEL AND CAN DIE IF THE WATER BECOMES TOO ACIDIC.



# ACID/BASE PH SCALE



#### 5. TURBIDITY - CLOUDINESS OF THE WATER

• (HOW MUCH DIRT IS STIRRED UP) CAN AFFECT FISH'S ABILITY TO TAKE UP OXYGEN FROM THE WATER.

#### 6. POLLUTION

• (I) POINT SOURCES (SPECIFIC SOURCE)

EX: LANDFILL LEAK, FACTORY WASTE WATER



Figure 3.11 Point sources of pollution, such as this factory's words water, are easier to identify than non-point sources.

• (II) NON-POINT SOURCES (MANY SOURCES)

EX: PESTICIDES, RUNOFF FROM CITY STREETS



Figure 3.12. When human activities negatively impact the environment,



### . UPWELLING (MARINE ONLY)

 VERTICAL MOVEMENT OF WATER FROM THE OCEAN FLOOR CAUSED BY WIND ON THE SURFACE. STIRS UP NUTRIENTS

#### 8. OCEAN CURRENTS (MARINE ONLY)

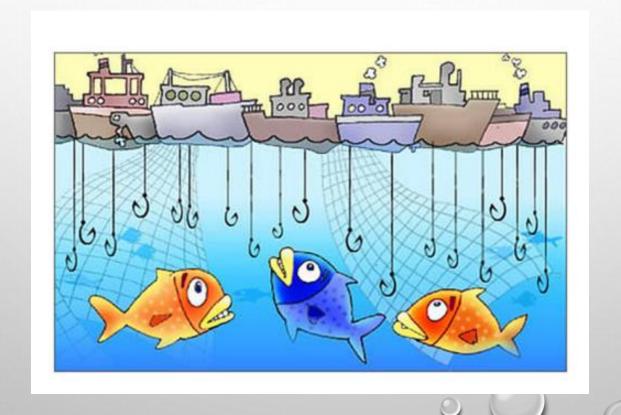
 CURRENTS AFFECT ON WHAT LIVES WHERE, TEMPERATURE, NUTRIENTS, AND OTHER FACTORS.

#### 9. SALINITY

• THE SALTIER THE WATER IS, THE LESS PLANTS AND ANIMALS WILL BE ABLE TO SURVIVE IN IT. THIS CREATES POOR-QUALITY OCEAN WATER (E.G. THE DEAD SEA).

# **OVER-FISHING:**

 WHEN MORE FISH ARE REMOVED FROM THEIR ENVIRONMENT THAN CAN BE REPLACED BY REPRODUCTION



# NEW TECHNOLOGIES HAVE MADE IT MUCH EASIER FOR PEOPLE TO OVER-FISH THE OCEANS:

- 1. FACTORY FREEZER TRAWLERS ARE LARGE SHIPS THAT CAN FREEZE FISH ON THE SHIP THIS MEANS THEY CAN STAY OUT ON THE WATER LONGER, CATCH MORE FISH, AND DON'T HAVE TO GO BACK UNTIL THEY ARE FULL
- 2. SONAR TECHNOLOGY USES SOUND WAVES TO LOCATE FISH TO CATCH
- 3. TRAWLERS ARE BOATS THAT DRAG NETS THROUGH THE MIDDLE OF THE WATER OR ON THE BOTTOM OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF THEY CATCH A LOT OF FISH AT ONCE BUT ALSO THINGS THAT THEY DIDN'T MEAN TO CATCH ARE ALSO CAUGHT IN THEIR NETS AND THEY CAN DAMAGE HABITATS ON THE SEA FLOOR WITH THEIR STEEL FRAMES:(

# OFFSHORE OIL

- LEAKS FROM THE OIL RIGS POLLUTE THE ENVIRONMENT AROUND THEM
- MOST OIL IN THE OCEANS COMES FROM CITIES, FARMS, FACTORIES AND BUILDINGS
- ANY OIL IN THE OCEANS IS DANGEROUS TO THE THINGS THAT LIVE IN IT





• SEISMIC TESTING: A METHOD USED TO FIND OIL DEPOSITED, IT INVOLVES SENDING OUT A HIGH PRESSURE BURST OF AIR DOWN TO THE SEA FLOOR. THESE SHOCK WAVES CAN DESTROY FISH EGGS AND LARVAE, CAUSE FISH TO LEAVE THEIR HABITATS, AND DISRUPT THE MIGRATION OF WHALES

# **AQUA CULTURE**

- AQUA CULTURE IS LIKE FARMING, ONLY THE ANIMALS ARE IN LAKES, RIVERS, OR THE OCEAN RATHER THAN IN A PASTURE. THE FISH ARE KEPT IN A CONTROLLED, USUALLY SHELTERED PLACE (LIKE A BAY)
- AQUA CULTURES CAN HELP TO REDUCE THE STRESS ON WILD FISH POPULATIONS IF THEY ARE MAINTAINED PROPERLY.
- HOWEVER, IF AN AQUA CULTURE SPECIES WERE TO ESCAPE THEIR CONTROLLED AREA, THEY
  COULD OUT COMPETE THE ANIMALS/PLANTS ALREADY LIVING THERE AND SPREAD DISEASE
  AND PARASITES TO THE NATIVE SPECIES





# NEWFOUNDLAND AQUA CULTURE

- SPECIES INCLUDE:
  - RAINBOW TROUT
  - SALMON
  - COD
  - SHELLFISH
  - SOME AQUATIC PLANTS

