

Name _____

Exploring the Climate of New Jersey

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The changing seasons in New Jersey offer a wide range of outdoor activities and attract tourists throughout the year. Spring and summer are ideal for beachgoers and outdoor enthusiasts, contributing to tourism revenue. Autumn brings fall foliage tourism and harvest festivals, while winter supports activities like skiing. These seasonal attractions enhance the state's economy and offer residents a high quality of life with diverse recreational opportunities.
2. Hurricanes can have a significant impact on New Jersey's coastal communities, leading to flooding, property damage, and power outages. Preparedness measures include evacuation plans and storm surge barriers. Examples of past hurricanes include Hurricane Sandy, which caused extensive damage in 2012. Recovery efforts involved rebuilding infrastructure, restoring power, and implementing improved flood defenses.
3. New Jersey's climate plays a vital role in agriculture and horticulture. Mild coastal climates support crops like tomatoes, blueberries, and cranberries. The influence of microclimates can lead to variations in planting and harvesting times. For example, some regions may have extended growing seasons due to warmer temperatures, while others may require specific crops suited to cooler conditions.
4. Weather variability in New Jersey necessitates preparedness for a range of conditions. Residents must be ready for heatwaves, winter storms, and coastal flooding. Communities can adapt by investing in infrastructure for flood control, maintaining communication networks for weather alerts, and promoting sustainable practices to mitigate climate change impacts. Being proactive in preparation and adaptation is essential for resilience in the face of climate challenges.

