4. What factors affect temperature?

Factors which affect temperature.

Temperature vary for different reasons:

- Temperatures change with **latitude**. Temperatures are higher near equator. They decrease progressively as we move towards the poles.
- Temperatures change with **altitude**. Temperatures are usually higher in lower areas and decrease with altitude. They decrease by an average of 6.4 ºC for every thousand metres.
- Temperature changes with **distance from the sea**. The sea makes coastal climates temperature. Consequently, inland climates are much hotter in summer and much colder in winter.

*Average annual temperatures round the world*
Did you know?

The coldest temperature (-89 °C) was recorded in Antarctica.

The hottest temperature (58 °C) was recorded in the Sahara desert in Libya.

Activity

1. Explain how latitude affects temperature.
   Use the information on the map.

2. Explain.
   London and Moscow are both between 50 °N and 55°N. In Moscow, it is hotter than London in the summer. However, it is colder than London in the winter. Explain why.