

A THOUSAND MILES OF DESERT & MOUNTAINS

Vocabulary

- 1) Yucca
- 2) galena
- 3) commissary
- 4) monuments
- 5) ledge
- 6) quartz
- 7) isolated
- 8) prospector
- 9) vicinity

Writing

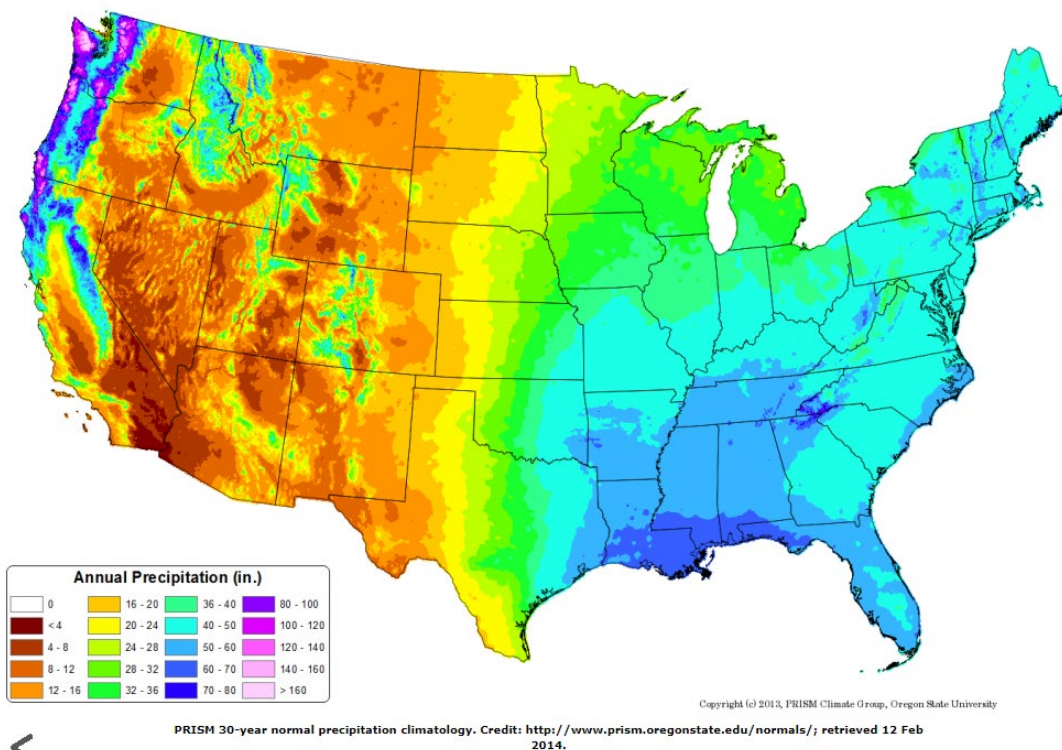
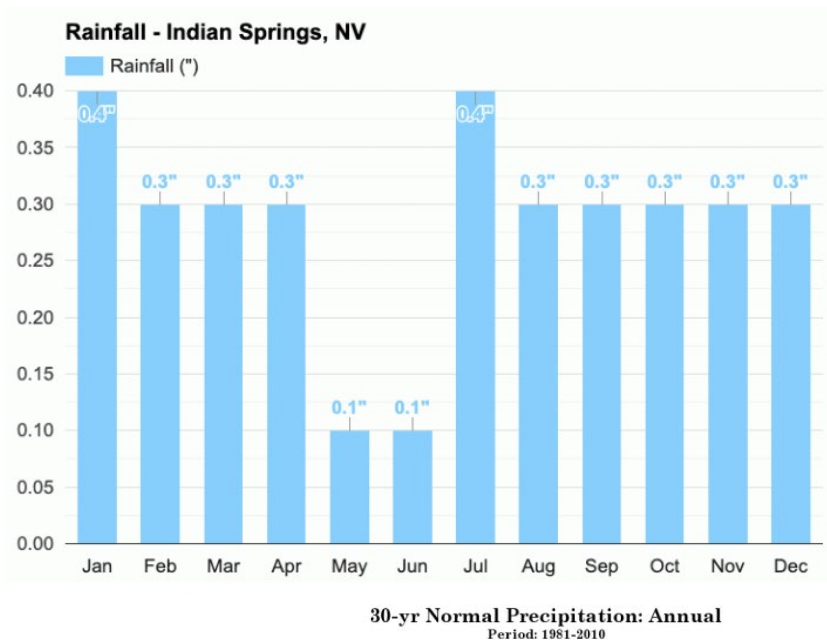
- 1) In the passage, George notes that he and Josephine covered 18 miles in 7 hours. Does this seem like a long way or not? What's the longest distance you have ever walked and where were you headed? Write a few sentences about what it felt like to be on your journey — during and after.
- 2) George notes that the yuccas are in bloom. Look around your yard and neighborhood and make note of all the plants that are in bloom. Describe the plants by noting their color, size, leaf shape, and other details. Draw little sketches of the various plants next to your descriptions.
- 3) In the diaries George talks about a man named Towner who struggled in “this out of the way spot for almost 25 years.” Write a few sentences about something you've struggled with. How long did you struggle? Why was it a struggle? How did you resolve the struggle?
- 4) George writes they have spent “two months looking for the ledge but having no success have given up the search.” Now that you have learned the mining related meaning of ledge, explain what George is saying in this statement.
- 5) “There are two graves out on the mesa, an Indian and a white man,” Write a story using this sentence as the first line of your composition.
- 6) George notes that McFarland was formerly from New York and addicted to cigarettes. He notes Kimball is interested in Christian Science. Why do you think George makes note of these kinds of details in the diaries?

Math

Indian Springs: quick facts

Spring runs 50 inches of water
 Temp is 78 degrees
 Elevation is 3,136 feet
 Avg. rainfall is less than 3 inches

1. Indian Springs Nevada is considered a desert and gets very little rain each year.
 - a. Look at the bar graph and find which months have the least amount of rain?
 - b. Which ones have the highest amount of rain?
 - c. What is the average rainfall from January to July?
 - i. *Hint: Add up the amount of rain each month and divide by the number of months.*

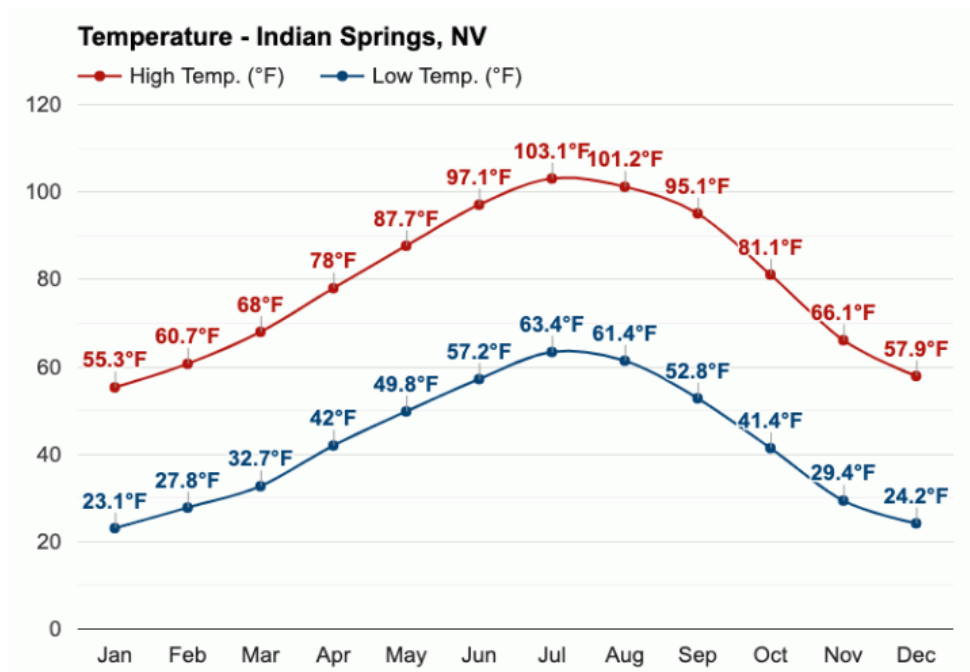


2. Take a look at the map above of the United States and find Nevada. Look at the key to see what the colors can tell you about the amount of precipitation (rain/snow) in our state.

- a. What is the annual precipitation in Las Vegas? Reno?
- b. What other state has similar amounts of precipitation?



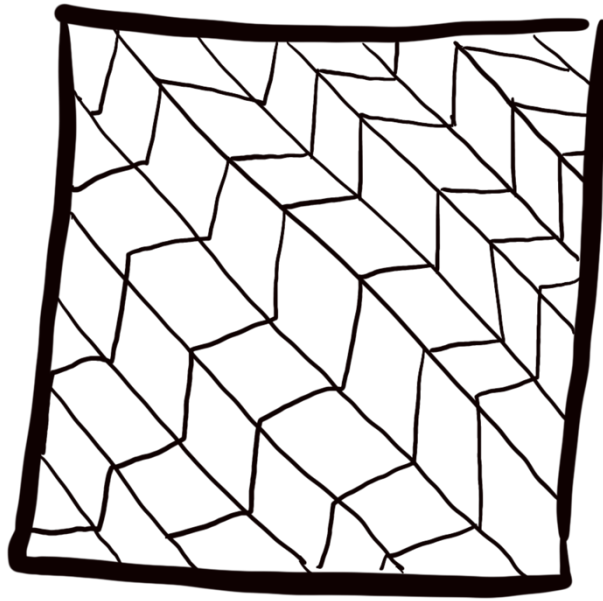
3. This map shows the physical characteristics of our county which includes the height or elevation of the land or mountains. Find Nevada and describe the elevation compared to the elevation of Mississippi.
 - a. The highest peak in Nevada is Boundary Peak near Mono Lake and rises to 13,140 feet above the sea. The lowest point is near the Colorado River at the southern-most part of the state and is 479 feet above the sea. Find the difference between the highest and lowest points.
4. George and Josephine wrote that the temperature was 78°. Based on the graph below, what month do you think they were in Indian Springs? What other month or months could they have been in Indian Springs based on this graph?



Art

George and Josephine thought the yucca plant in bloom was so beautiful they snapped a picture of it and included it in their diaries. Using Emily Reid's tips from the last episode, use color and line to experiment with drawing or painting a yucca plant that is *not* realistic. Use the basic form of a yucca as your starting point and then use your imagination to create a plant that might be a distant cousin to the yucca — you can still see its essence but maybe the leaves are purple and the flowers silver. It's up to you and your imagination.

This week's Zentangle pattern looks like this:



Don't forget to try pressing a cutting from your yard! Cuttings can be flowers or shrubs. Arrange the cutting between two pieces of paper and press it flat by putting a couple heavy books on top. The amount of time you will need to leave it depends on the thickness and amount of moisture in the plant. Check your progress after a week by gently removing the books and gingerly peeling back the top piece of paper. If the cutting looks flat and dry, you're done! If not, replace the paper top sheet and books and leave it to dry longer.

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