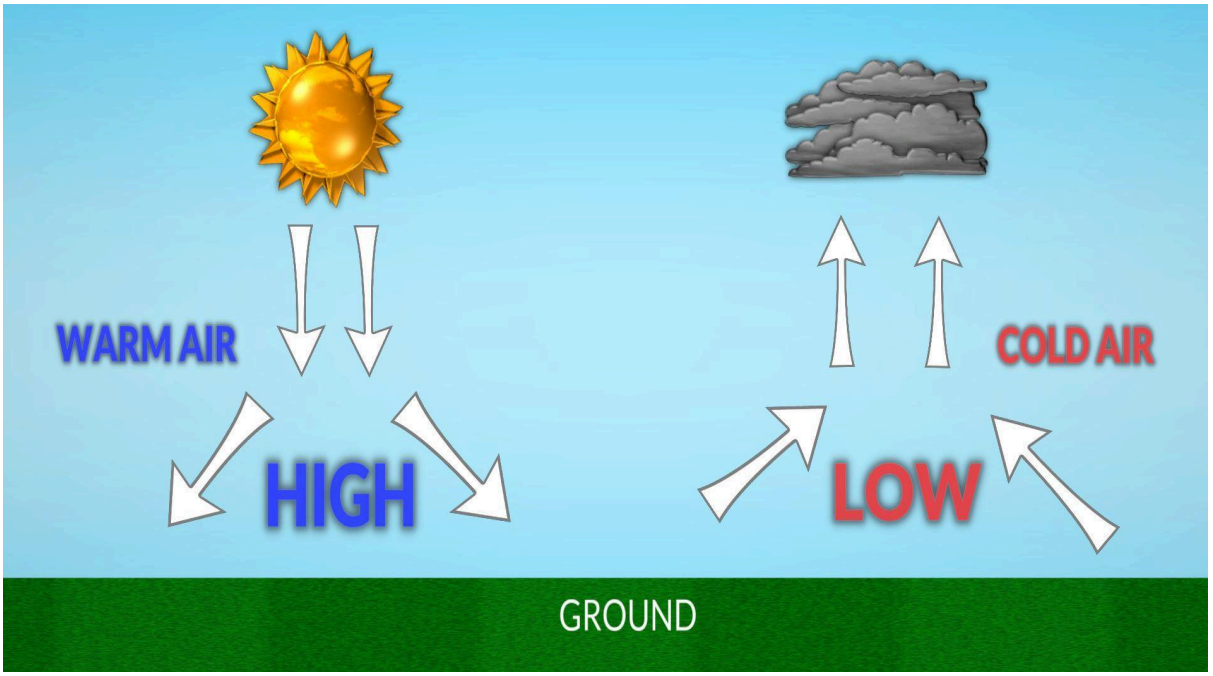
DEBATE TOPIC – What are the different forces shaping our planet?

UNIT ENQUIRY - How do weather and climate forces shape our planet?



<u>Lesson 1</u> - **Why does it Rain?**

1. Freshwater is unevenly distributed around our planet. There are clear patterns along different lines of latitude.
2. There are three distinct types of Rainfall, Relief or Orographic, Convectional, and Frontal.
3. Weather is the day to day condition of the atmosphere whereas climate is the state of the atmosphere over longer periods of time.

<u>Lesson 2</u> - **What is low pressure and how does it influence weather?**

1. Low pressure results in unstable weather characterised by wet, windy, and stormy conditions.
2. They are found at the Equator and around 60 North or South of the Equator.
3. Low pressure zones are characterised for heavy rainfall and forests.

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<u>Lesson 3</u> - **What is high pressure and how does it influence weather?**

1. High pressure results in stable weather characterised by sunshine, low wind, and clear blue skies.
2. They are found at the Equator and around 30 and 90 North or South of the Equator.
3. High pressure zones are characterised for low rainfall and arid conditions - deserts.

<u>Lesson 4</u> - **What information can we get from weather maps?**

1. High pressure winds rotate clockwise in the northern hemisphere whereas low pressure winds rotate anticlockwise.
2. Synoptic charts use isobars to visualise air masses and atmospheric pressure.
3. Red lines with semi-circles represent warm fronts whereas blue lines with triangles represent cold fronts.

<u>Lesson 5</u> - **How does our weather and climate affect where we live?**

1. Biomes are large scale global ecosystems.
2. Climate graphs are used to show the average temperature and precipitation in areas around the world.
3. The climate in each biome affects the number of people living in each area, which explains why few people live in extreme environments such as deserts.