

Winter Weather in the West

How low do the temperatures go during the winter season in the West? Complete the following activity to find out.

Directions: A weather map displays information such as rainfall, snowfall, and temperature. Study the weather map below and then answer the questions that follow.

What factors might affect temperature?

- **Altitude:** Places high above sea level have cooler temperatures than places close to sea level.
- **Ocean waters:** Waters along nearby land areas exert an effect and cause milder winters.

Average Winter Temperatures (Degrees Fahrenheit)

Over 60	<input type="checkbox"/>
45 to 60	<input type="checkbox"/>
30 to 45	<input type="checkbox"/>
15 to 30	<input type="checkbox"/>
0 to 15	<input type="checkbox"/>
-15 to 0	<input type="checkbox"/>
Below -15	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Which western state has the warmest average temperature? _____
2. Which state has the coldest average temperature? _____
3. What is the range of temperature in the Rocky Mountains? _____
4. What is the average winter temperature in the southernmost portion of California? _____
5. What is the average range of temperature in Alaska? _____
6. What is the average winter temperature in Los Angeles? _____
7. What is the average winter temperature in Salt Lake City? _____
8. Which city has the cooler average temperature: Los Angeles or Salt Lake City? _____

9. What factors might cause the difference in temperatures of these two cities? _____
