**Physical Geography – Activity 2 (PG-2)**

Open [**Activity 2: Precipitation in Colorado**](http://unco.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1d7c492f27364e549e6ceba648b20e78) (*web map for Activities PG-1, PG-2, PG-3, and PG-4).*

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| **Step 1** | **Your Task** |
| Using Layer List button*,* make sure the following layers are *CHECKED ON*: **Major Cities,** **Continental Divide, Mountains, Colorado Rivers**(all other layers *OFF).* Looking at the continental divide, mountains, and rivers in Colorado, where do you predict our state gets the most *precipitation* (rain and snow)? Where does it get the least precipitation?  | **On the map below, shade the areas you think are the wettest in blue and the areas you think are the driest in yellow.** You don’t need to shade the entire map. Remember: wet means a lot of rain AND snow!**How did you decide which areas would be wet?** **How did you decide which areas would be dry?**  |
| **Step 2** |  **Your Task** |
| *Check ON* the **Precipitation Zones** layer to check your prediction. Click *Legend*   button to see what the different colors mean for Precipitation Zones. (*Arid* means dry; semi-arid is not as dry – the category in the middle.) | **Which areas of Colorado receive the most precipitation (classified as “wet”)**? **Which areas of Colorado receive the least precipitation (classified as “arid”)?**  |

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| **Step 3** |  **Your Task** |
| *Check ON* **Communities** layer, then *Refresh Map*. Click on the communities to find your hometown or a nearby town or city. | **Do you live in a wet, semi-arid, or arid region?**  |
| **Reflection** | **Your Task** |
| [Read](https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/rain-shadow/) about *rain shadows.*  | **Use what you noticed from the maps and information from the National Geographic article to write a paragraph explaining why some regions of Colorado receive less precipitation than others.**  |