**Physical Geography – Activity 3 (PG-3)**

## Open [Activity 3: Colorado’s Life Zones](http://unco.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1d7c492f27364e549e6ceba648b20e78) (web map is for *Activities PG-1, PG-2, PG-3, and PG-4*). Colorado can be divided into five “life zones” going from lowest to highest elevation: Plains, Foothills, Montane, Subalpine, and Alpine. Boundaries of the life zones are defined by elevation: how high the land is above sea level.

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| **Step 1** | **Your Task** |
| Using Layer List button*,* CHECK ON the following layers: **Major Cities,** **Continental Divide, Mountains, Colorado Rivers, Colorado**(other layers *Checked OFF).* On the map at right, try to predict where each life zone is. | *Double click on the image below.* Use Shapes tools to draw a region (area) showing where you predict each zone will be located. **Color the Plains yellow, the Foothills orange, the Montane brown, the Subalpine dark red, and the Alpine gray or white.** |
| **Step 2** | **Your Task** |
| *Check ON* the **Life Zones** layer. Click  *Legend* button to see which color is used to show each different Life Zone. | **Which life zones did you predict correctly?**  **Which ones did you not predict correctly?**  **Which life zone appears to occupy the MOST land in Colorado?**  **Which life zone appears to occupy the LEAST land in Colorado?**  **What do you notice about where the each life zone is located, in relation to the mountains?**  **Predict the life zone that you would expect to see in the states that neighbor Colorado on the east.** |
| **Step 3** | **Your Task** |
| Explore [ThingLink of Colorado Life Zones](https://www.thinglink.com/video/988910472604418049) or [Colorado VR](https://coloradovr.com/) (or any other image bank on the web) to gain understanding of the characteristics of each zone. | Guiding questions for discussion:   * What are *common characteristics* of several adjacent life zones? * How do *elevation, landforms, and precipitation* affect the plants and animals that are found in each life zone? |