

Learning With Visual Features in the RMI Climate Booklet

Group A: Figure 2 – Map of Marshall Islands on page 2. Read the section on Page 2 titled “Warm and Humid.”

Group B: Figure 3 – Detailed Map of Republic of the Marshall Islands on page 3. Read the caption associated with Figure 3 and the last paragraph on page 2.

Group C: Figure 4 – Graph of Majuro Annual Rainfall on page 3. Read the caption associated with Figure 4 and the paragraph above the graph.

Group D: Figure 5 – Pictures of Types of Rain on page 4. First read all the writing under Figure 5. If you have enough time, read the whole page.

Group E: Table 2 – Main Climate Features on page 6.

Your Group Letter: _____

1) **Before you read any text about your assigned Visual Feature:** What question(s) do you have about it?

After you read the text about you assigned Visual Feature:

2) What is the main idea or ideas that the Visual Feature is explaining?

3) What questions do you have now about the Visual Feature?

4) What would be hard for RMI students in Grades 6-9 to understand about the Visual Feature?

RMI Book Graphic Images: Tips for Instructor

Adjust the directions on the handout and in your discussion based on the climate change booklet for your Pacific island location.

Group A: Figure 2 – Map of Marshall Islands on page 2

Main idea is that RMI is located near the equator and that it is surrounded by the ocean. Teachers and students may not be familiar with latitude, longitude, the scale of the map, the blue line and the red boxed area to show the general location of the islands. They may wonder about zero being in the middle of the Y-axis and why there is no zero on the X-axis.

Group B: Figure 3 - Detailed Map of Republic of the Marshall Islands on page 3

Main idea is that RMI atolls are spread over a range of latitudes from 5⁰North to 12⁰North. Teachers and students may not be familiar with latitude, longitude, the scale of the map, and that map is a blow-up of the red boxed area in Figure 2. They may wonder about the values on the axes (there is no zero on either axis).

Group C: Graph of Majuro Annual Rainfall on page 3

Main idea is that there is a lot of rain each year. However, the total amount is very different from one year to the next year. There is a lot of natural **variability**. Teachers and students may not be used to graphs that start at a value different than zero at the X-axis or the Y-axis. They are not used to seeing so much up and down in a line graph.

Group D: Figure 5 – Pictures of Types of Rain on page 4

Main idea is that low islands get only one type of rain and that high islands get two types of rain. RMI students may not be familiar with mountains and that mountains are colder near the top, and how this coldness can cause more clouds and rain.

Group E: Table 2 – Main Climate Features on page 6

Main idea is that all the sentences describe important features of climate in the Marshall Islands. Since this is a summary table, it may not be familiar to teachers or students who have not read the pages that came before it. The last two items are probably the least familiar. A Table like this can be useful for pre-reading to alert the reader about what to expect, or for review in the middle of reading a long text like the booklet.

Whole Class Summary

Use the Group presentations and Table 2 to highlight the major local climate features. In particular, draw attention to the warm/humid feature. Begin a discussion about why the island climate is warm and humid.