



Data Lens: Exploring Earth's Visual Stories

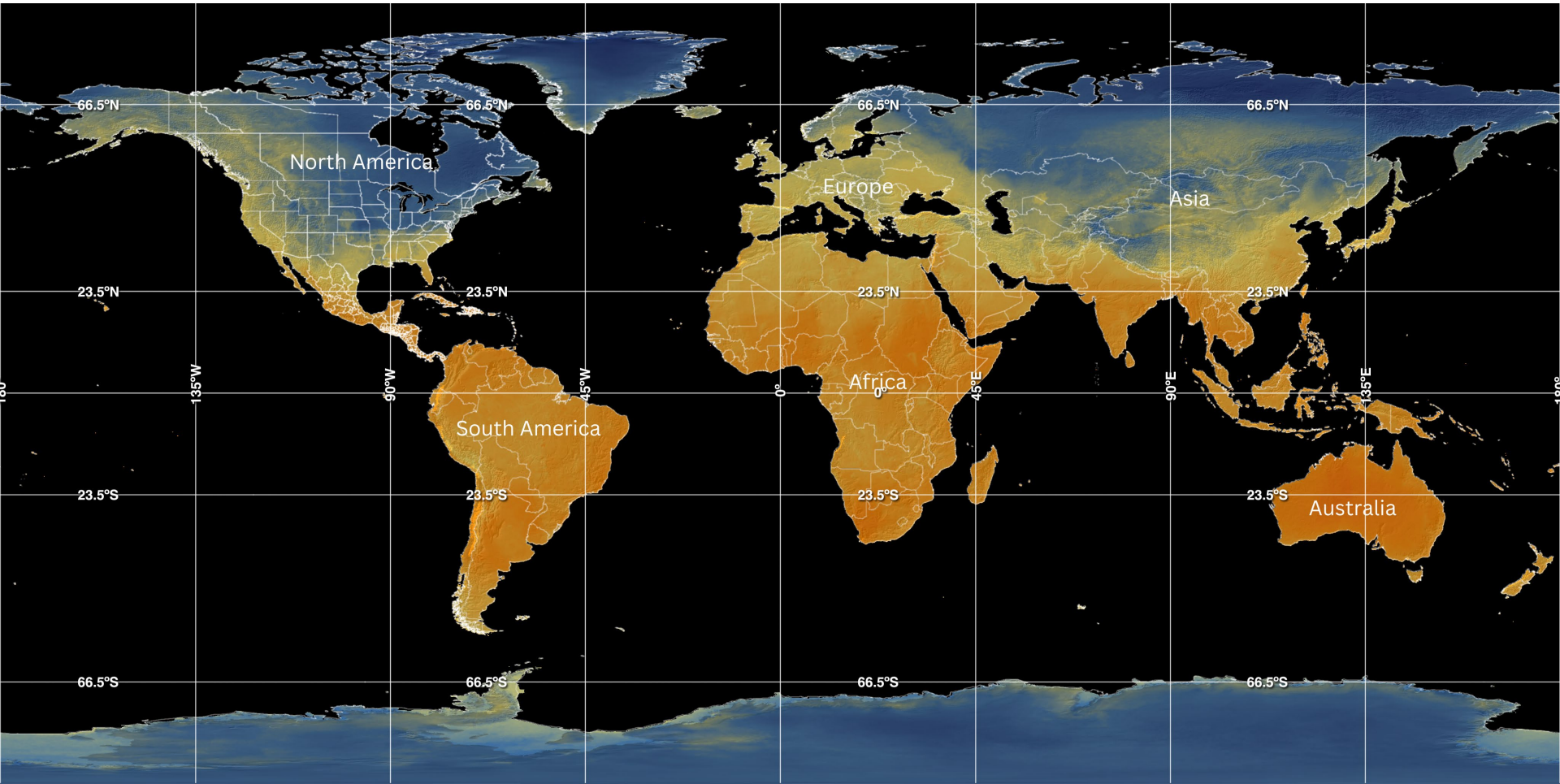
We are going to slow down and take ten minutes or so to observe a map and discuss what we discover and notice about it. There are no right or wrong answers!

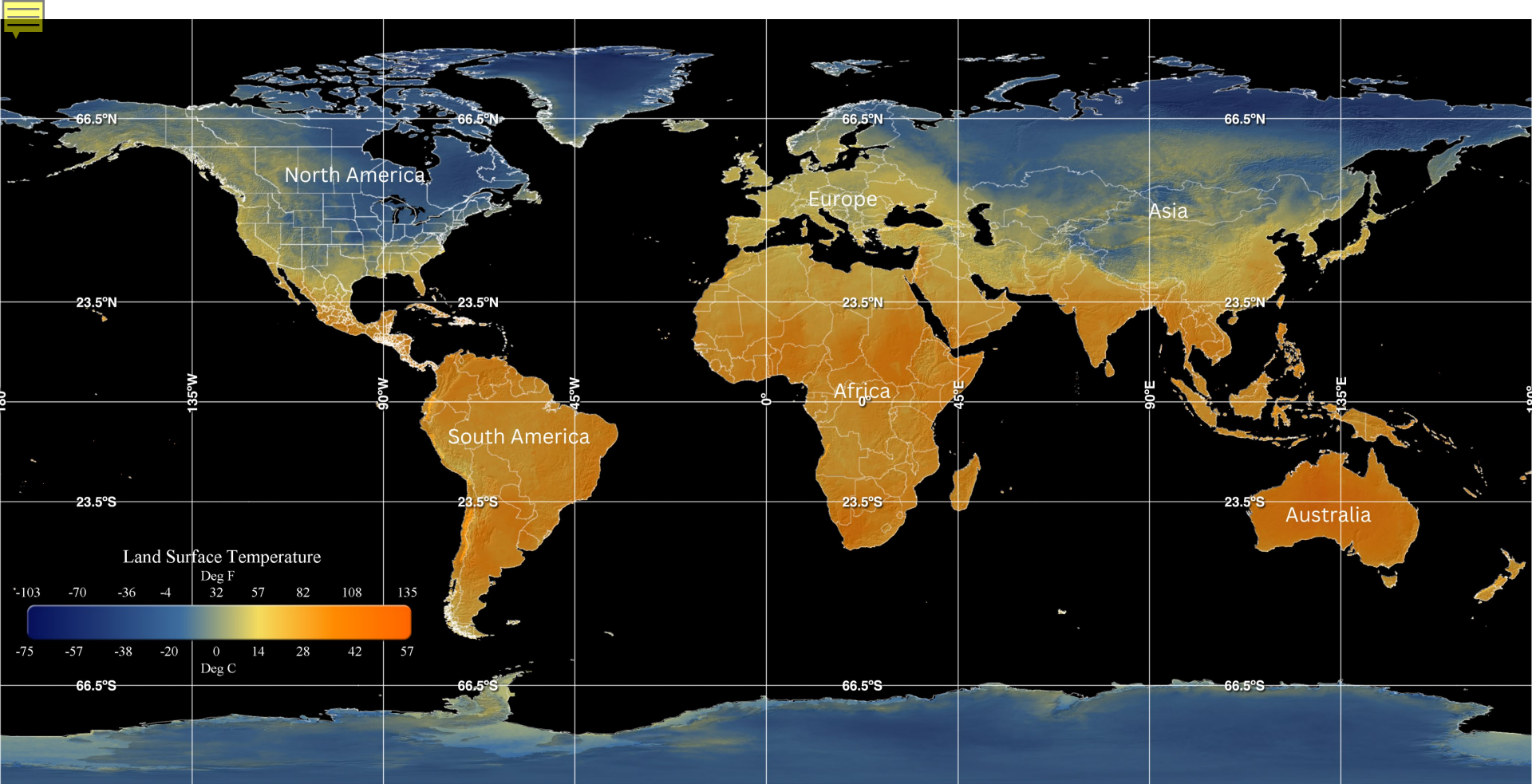
First: Ground Rules

- **Raise your hand** to share your ideas with the class.
- **All** ideas are welcome.
- Be **respectful** of others' ideas!
 - It's okay if you disagree!
 - Build off each others' ideas.

Next: One minute to quietly observe...

What do you notice here?

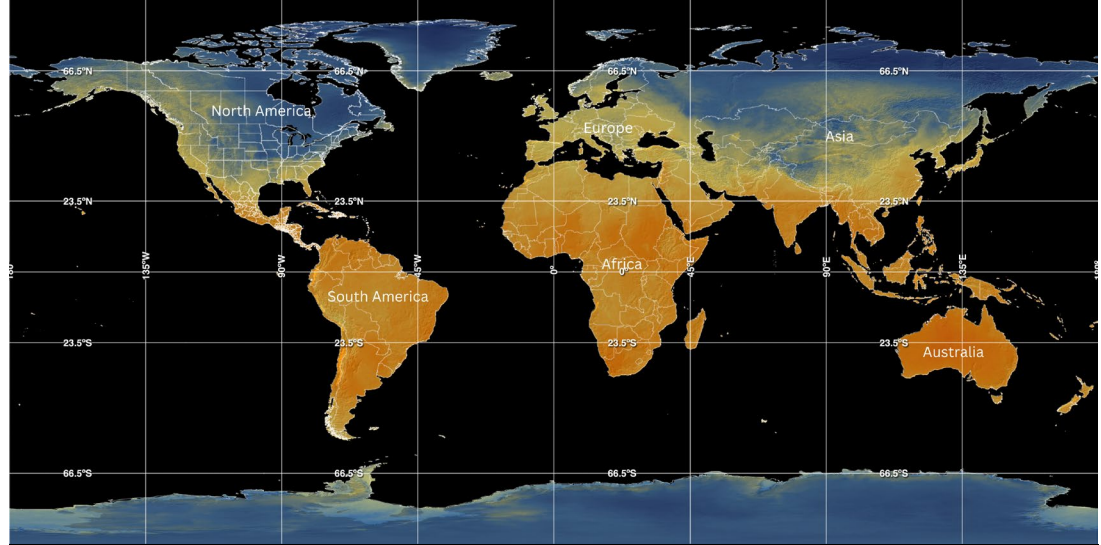




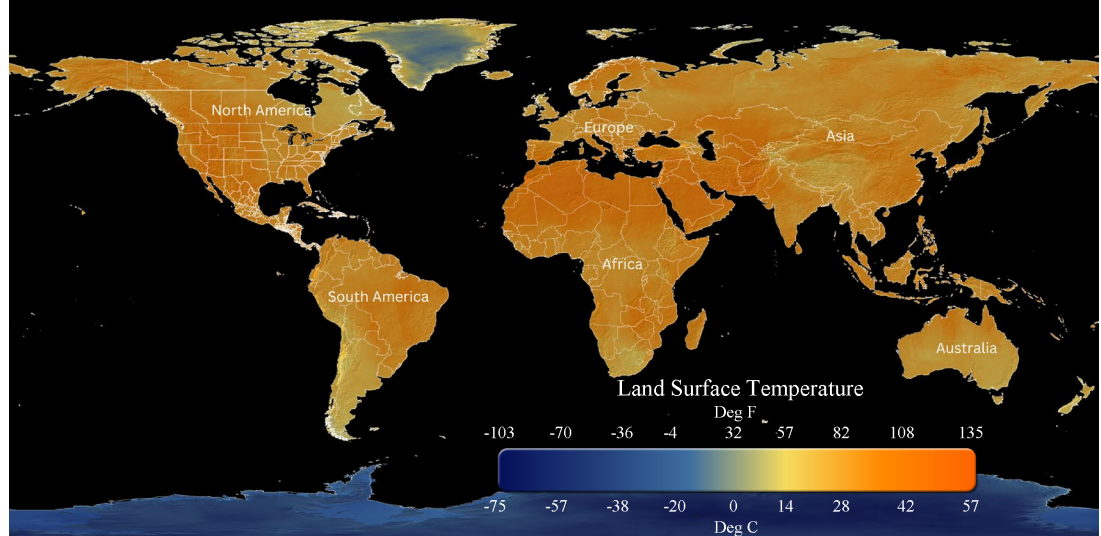
Land Surface Temperature – 1/22/2025

- 1) Complete the Venn diagram on your worksheet with similarities and differences between the two maps
- 2) If the second map is the hottest day of 2024, what day do you guess that might have been?
- 3) Is there anything that surprises you about either of the maps?

**January 22,
2025**



**Hottest Day
of 2024**



Last Question to answer on your sheet

4) What was one comment that a classmate made that changed your thinking about the map observation?

End of Data Lens

Want to learn more about the dataset? (5 min)

Read the dataset description on the next slide. Jot down any words you don't understand.

Want to learn a little more about climate zones? (10 min)

Do a brief partner jigsaw read and share.

Land Surface Temperature

If you touch the ground on a hot day, you can feel how warm it is. Satellites can do the same thing—but from space! They measure *land surface temperature*, which is different from air temperature because land heats up and cools down faster than air. The type of *land cover* also affects temperature. For example, deserts with bare ground can get much hotter than forests, even if they're at the same latitude. Scientists use this data to study weather, climate, and even how land is being used for things like farming.

This map shows temperature data collected by satellites over a 24-hour period. The colors help us see patterns: blue areas are cooler, and orange areas are warmer. By tracking these changes, scientists can learn more about how Earth's surface reacts to sunlight, seasons, and different environments.

Source: [NOAA Science On a Sphere](#)

Reading Extension

10-20 minutes

Partner up

Student A: Read a short page about "[Weather vs. Climate](#)"

Student B: Watches a video on "[Weather vs. Climate video](#)"

Take 5 minutes each to share what you learned.