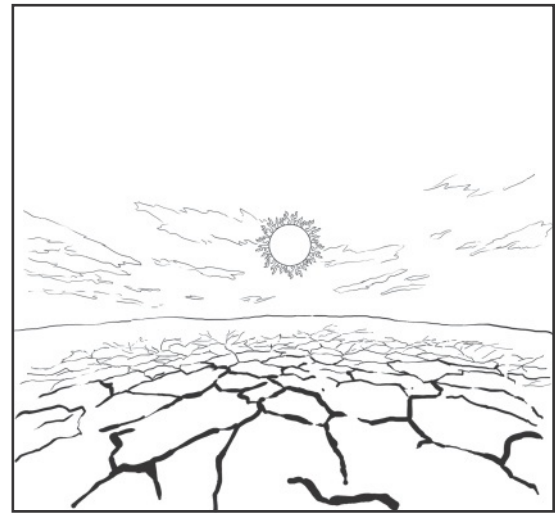


What Is a Drought?

Did You Know? A drought is a long period of dry weather. Because plants and animals depend on water, a drought can destroy important habitats. Sometimes droughts create long-lasting problems for animals and their environments.

A drought can also help some animals and plants. Droughts can dry out wetlands. When wetlands dry out, plants and animals can start life in newly enriched soil.



The students of a Grade 3 class decided to track the annual number of days without rainfall in some cities. See the data in the table to the right.

Days Without Rain

	2012	2013
Las Vegas	337	333
Phoenix	325	322
Albuquerque	306	286

- 1 How many days were without rainfall in Phoenix in 2012 and in 2013? Draw a bar diagram to represent and solve the problem.



- 2 During the 2 years, did Las Vegas or Phoenix have more days without rain? Explain.

Las Vegas; Sample answer: Las Vegas had

$337 + 333 = 670$ days without rain. Phoenix had

647 days without rain. $670 > 647$

- 3 **Extension** Use place value to find the total number of days without rain in Albuquerque in 2012 and 2013. Show your work.

592 days; $300 + 200 = 500$; $0 + 80 = 80$;

$6 + 6 = 12$; $500 + 80 + 12 = 592$