

Weather Watch I

(This is an ongoing lesson throughout the year and will be paired with Weather Watch II)

Developed by:

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Discipline / Subject:

Interdisciplinary

Topic:

Weather data collection

Grade Level:

3-6

Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:

- Weather Watch Chart
- Internet access

Lesson Summary:

- Students will collect data around the country including Alaska, Florida, and their state and then draw conclusions about the climate of these areas.

Standard's Addressed: (Local, State, or National)

1. Students use scientific process and habits of mind to solve problems
2. Students understand that science, technology, and society are interwoven and interdependent
3. Students measure quantities in the real world and uses the measures to solve problems
4. Students write to communicate ideas and information effectively
5. Students select and use appropriate technologies to enhance efficiency and effectiveness of communication

Learning objectives:

Students will:

- Collect data from the internet
- Record observation of weather across the country
- Draw conclusions about the climate in selected areas around the country

Assessment:

Completing the Weather Watch Charts correctly and continuing data collection over time

Procedural Activities

1. Select specific cities in Alaska, Florida, and student's state – suggestions are Anchorage and Nome, Alaska; Vero Beach, Florida; and student's city, state
2. Discuss selected areas that students will focus on for weather data collection
3. Explain the weather data chart and information that students will be collecting
4. Have students share what they know about weather and climate. Discuss the difference between climate and weather.
5. Students visit www.weather.com and/or www.wunderground.com/ to collect weather data
6. Students chart weather data, three times a week, for at least a four week period (data collection over several months would be optimal)

Materials Students Need:

- One copy of Weather Watch Chart for each week of data collecting
- Internet access

Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:

Internet access to www.weather.com and/or www.wunderground.com/

Other Information

Students will reflect back and respond to weather conditions watch time and record observations on chart. After four weeks of collecting data from selected areas, students will draw conclusions about the climate of those locations (See Weather Watch II Lesson)

The “Air Feels” portion of the Weather Chart is important to help students start to make the connections with conditions and temperature.

Vocabulary:

precipitation
temperature
overcast
weather
climate

Modifications for special learners/ Enrichment Opportunities

- Collecting weather data in various locations around the world will allow students to draw conclusions about different climates and gain an understanding of climatic regions around the world

Notes: