

Changes in Weather

Standards of Learning

Science K.1, K.9, 1.1, 1.7, 2.1, 2.6, 2.7

English K.11, K.12, 1.12, 1.13, 2.12

Math K.9, 2.14

Objective

Students will:

- Investigate basic types, changes, and patterns of weather
- Measure and record weather data; record daily temperature using a thermometer
- Keep a weather journal to track changes over a two week period

Materials

- *Whatever the Weather* by Karen Wallace

If this book is unavailable, you may omit it or substitute another book about the weather.

- Weather Journal (one for each student), handout included
- Thermometer
- Clock
- Crayons/markers/colored pencils

Background Knowledge

This lesson focuses on different types of weather and the fact that weather changes over time. Students will keep a weather journal for a two week period and track the changes in the weather and temperature.

Procedure

1. Ask the students what their favorite type of weather is and why it is their favorite.
2. After receiving some student responses, tell the students that even though they may have a favorite type of weather, they would not want the weather to be the same all the time.
3. Ask the students: If someone's favorite type of weather is snow, what are some reasons we may not want it to snow all the time?
4. Tell the students that plants and animals which cannot live in cold weather would not be able to survive if it was always snowing.
5. Tell the students that the weather is always changing from one day to the next.
6. Read the book, *Whatever the Weather* by Karen Wallace, aloud to the class.
7. After reading the book, ask the students the following questions:
 - How many different types of weather did William see from his window?
Look back through the book with the students.
 - What are some other types of weather that William did not see?
Hurricane, tornado
8. Tell the students that over the next two weeks they are going to observe the weather like William did.
9. Tell them that they will be recording the weather and temperature every day for these two weeks.



10. Show the students the class thermometer and how to read it. They will read and record the temperature every day over the two week period.
11. Give a journal to each student.
12. Tell the students that each entry in the journal should have the day's date; the time they wrote the entry; a short description of the day's weather; a picture showing the day's weather; and the temperature.
13. At the end of the two week period, discuss with the students the different types of weather they observed.
14. Ask them how the weather may have been affected by the current season.
15. Ask the students how the weather changes may have affected the plants and animals.

Extension

Have the students graph the temperature changes they record over the two weeks.

Ask students to pick a Virginia agriculture commodity (corn, soybeans, cattle, dairy cows, etc.) to raise on a farm. Using the graphed temperatures how would the weather affect the plants and animals on the farm? What would they need to survive?

References

Wallace, K. (1999). *Whatever the Weather*. New York, NY: Dorling Kindersley Publishing.
ISBN: 0-7894-4751-7

This book can be found in your school library, county library or can be purchased from your favorite book seller.



Weather Journal

Name: _____

Date	Time	Description	Picture	Temperature





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