

5.4 Be A Weather Forecaster

Exhibit Title: KSL Weather Display

Core Connection

Fourth Grade Science Standard 2: Students will understand that the elements of weather can be observed, measured, and recorded to make predictions and determine simple weather patterns.

Fourth Grand Language Arts Standard 8: Writing - Students write daily to communicate effectively for a variety of purposes and audiences.

Summary: Students will observe and record their local weather for a week and predict the weather for the day of the field trip to the Alf Engen Ski Museum.

Lesson Learning Objectives:

1. Students will learn to use appropriate instruments to measure temperature and barometric pressure daily.
2. Students will record observations on a chart.
3. Students will interpret and evaluate results of observations.
4. Students will make predictions based on collected data.

Materials: "Weather Instruments" worksheet, daily weather chart

Time Approximate: 5 - 15 minutes per day

Instructions:

1. Note to the teacher: Review and discuss with the students the various types of weather instruments. Tell the students that they will be using instruments to predict the weather for the field trip.
2. Have the students observe the weather conditions over a one- or two-week period and record the information on the chart provided.
3. Review the information recorded from the previous week or two and predict what the weather might be on the day of the field trip. Explain reasons for prediction.
4. After your visit to the museum, compare the students' forecasts with the actual weather on the day of the field trip. Have students write a paragraph describing the similarities and differences between the two.

Weather Instruments

Below are four weather instruments that are used to gather information for weather forecasters. These are just a few of the instruments that forecasters use in their work.



Anemometer: A device used for measuring how fast the wind is blowing. This instrument can tell you the direction from which the wind is blowing.



Barometer: An instrument for measuring the pressure of the air in the atmosphere. High pressure means great weather, while low pressure is a sign of rain. Very low pressure indicates an approaching storm.



Rain Gauge: A tool used for catching and measuring rain or snow. A rain gauge like this one is usually placed in the ground outside, in an open area where it can easily catch rain.



Thermometer: An instrument used for measuring the temperature of the air. There are two scales for measuring air temperature - they are Celsius and Fahrenheit. Air temperature is affected by wind and the amount of sun shining.

