



Earth's Systems: Weather and Climate

By: Jessica Shaffer

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Science
Grades 3–5



Introduction

How's the weather up there? Students will track the weather over the course of one month in order to describe typical weather conditions expected during a particular season. Here's the catch... they will use tables and graphs to do so!

Learning Objectives

([3-ESS2-1](#)) Represent data in tables and graphical displays to describe typical weather conditions expected during a particular season.

Materials Needed

- Chromebook/tablet/device
- [Temperature tracking sheet](#)
- Graph paper

Procedure

1. Build background knowledge on weather and climate. Make sure to preview the videos before watching as links and content can frequently change.
 - [BrainPOP: Temperature](#)
 - [BrainPOP: Weather](#)
 - [BrainPOP: Climate Types](#)
 - [Weather Wiz Kids](#)
2. Discuss weather and key terms such as:
 - Weather
 - Climate
 - Temperature
 - Fahrenheit
 - Sunrise
 - Sunset

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3. Students will complete the Temperature Tracking Data Chart. Show students how to access all the information on the website (weather.com). Have students save this website and bookmark it for easy access. Complete the first two days of data together, and then students should complete the rest on their own.
4. Complete the graphs. You may create a template for the students to use that has information already placed on the x and y-axis, or for a challenge have students create one or both of the graphs on their own. Make sure to review using a ruler, accurately plotting points, etc.
5. Students will then complete questions. Explain to students how to find the average (mean) of the temperature highs and lows for the month.
6. Have a class discussion at the end of this assignment. See how students felt about being in charge of collecting data so frequently. Discuss trends noticed in the weather. Discuss how this assignment would look different if it was completed at a different time of the year.

Evaluation

This should be counted as a project grade. Point values are listed in the document, so students are aware of the value of each part of the assignment.

Part 1: Data - 60 points

- Each column correctly filled out with appropriate information
- Writing is legible

Part 2: Graphs- 20 points

Part 3: Questions- 20 points