



Pre-Visit/Post-Visit Guide

Lesson Name: Weather Explorers

Summary of Lesson:

Students will examine thermometers, wind vanes, rain gauges, and wind socks to learn how these instruments are used to measure and record weather. From using thermometers to observing bubbles, this lab will blow you away!

South Carolina Science Standards: 2.E.2A.1, 2.E.2A.2, 2.E.2A.3

Pre-Visit Resources

- **Teacher/Chaperone Expectations:** Please help us by letting us know of any special accommodations for your children prior to the lesson. Your assistance with classroom management and distribution of supplies will also be greatly appreciated.
- **Instructions for Teachers:** Please report to the Harrison Hall of Science for this lesson. Students will be working in pairs or in groups of three for uneven class numbers. Your instructor will meet you at the front desk and take your class to the Lab.
- **Key Vocabulary:** Wind, Precipitation, Temperature, Rain Gauge, Thermometer, Wind Vane, Wind Sock, Meteorologist
- **Key Questions Addressed in Lesson:** What instruments can be used to measure and record the weather? What is the correct way to use a thermometer to measure temperature? How can common objects help us determine wind direction?
- **Content Preview Video:**
 - Mickey Mouse Explains...Weather Tools <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qk7KpzF9FtI> (3:08)

Post-Visit Resources

- **Writing Prompt:** You discovered a box of what looks like strange tools in your attic. Your mother wants you to throw it away. You believe they are useful weather tools! You need to prove to your mother that this box of treasures should not be thrown away. Make an inventory (detailed list) of at least 4 weather tools. Explain what each tool measures and how you plan to use the tool.
- **Possible Lesson Link:**
 - "Rain Cloud in a Jar", a rain experiment for kids. <https://thestemlaboratory.com/rain-cloud-jar/> and demonstration video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4GePPTUAjI> (0:33).
- **Career Connections:** meteorologist, climate scientist
 - " I Want To Be A Meteorologist" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5-yYOpgmmp8> (4:59). This is a fun video about Clare, who wants to be a meteorologist. She describes what it would be like to have her own weather station. Clare pretends to work for the News Station and tells people what the weather will be so everyone can be prepared. It might even rain cats and dogs!