

# WILD, WILD WEATHER

## UNIT OVERVIEW

Students tackle the mysteries and wonders of weather in this four part approach. The first section, "**Weather Tracking Chart**", involves students measuring and tracking the weather on a daily basis. In the second part, "**Core Lessons**", basic weather topics such as temperature, wind, pressure, clouds and precipitation are studied. Exciting activities integrated with student notes provide students with solid background information. The third part of the unit, "**Enrichment Lessons**" focuses on the more dramatic - examining tornadoes, hurricanes, thunderstorms and the greenhouse effect, again using student notes and activities. Six "**Optional Activities**" make up the fourth part of the unit.

## PART I - WEATHER TRACKING CHART

Students keep track of the weather twice daily on a large-sized chart. Students begin the unit by measuring temperature and add other measurements to the chart as they are learned. Eventually students measure temperature, wind speed and direction, pressure, precipitation and cloud cover using student-made or teacher-made instruments, in most cases.

## PART II - CORE LESSONS

This section covers basic weather topics by combining activities with student notes. The notes can be photocopied onto overhead projector transparencies or simply written on the board.

- |    |                              |   |                          |
|----|------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1. | <b>Solid Liquid Gas</b>      | - | Wacky Weather (Quiz)     |
| 2. | <b>Changes of State</b>      | - | Weather Whys (Worksheet) |
| 3. | <b>Temperature</b>           | - | Baby Food Jar Madness    |
| 4. | <b>Wind</b>                  | - | Wind Vane                |
| 5. | <b>High And Low Pressure</b> | - | Weather Pictograms       |
| 6. | <b>Clouds</b>                | - | Clouds in a Jar          |
| 7. | <b>Precipitation</b>         | - | Pop Bottle Rain Gauge    |

## PART III - ENRICHMENT LESSONS

Similar to Part II, this section uses overhead notes and closely related assignments to examine such things as tornadoes, hurricanes and thunderstorms. Teachers may use all these lessons or select a few depending on availability of time and suitability.

- |     |                            |   |   |
|-----|----------------------------|---|---|
| 8.  | <b>Thunderstorms</b>       | - | Popcorn Pilot (Creative Writing)          |
| 9.  | <b>Tornadoes</b>           | - | Rating Tornadoes (Fujita Intensity Scale) |
| 10. | <b>Hurricanes</b>          | - | Naming Hurricanes (Logic Puzzle)          |
| 11. | <b>Weather Forecasting</b> | - | Weather Predicting                        |
| 12. | <b>Greenhouse Effect</b>   | - | Letter To The Editor                      |
| 13. | <b>Review</b>              | - | Matching Review                           |

## PART IV - OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

These, mostly fun activities, can be integrated into the unit as the teacher sees fit.

- |    |                             |    |                                 |
|----|-----------------------------|----|---------------------------------|
| 1. | <b>Weather Wordsearches</b> | 4. | <b>Weather Reporters</b>        |
| 2. | <b>Crossword Puzzle</b>     | 5. | <b>Movie Review - "Twister"</b> |
| 3. | <b>Humidity Measurement</b> | 6. | <b>Groundhog Day</b>            |





**WEATHER WORDSEARCH**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Find These Words:

BLIZZARD  
CHINOOK  
CYCLONE  
DEW  
DRIZZLE  
FROST

HAIL  
HURRICANE  
LIGHTNING  
RAIN  
SLEET  
SNOW

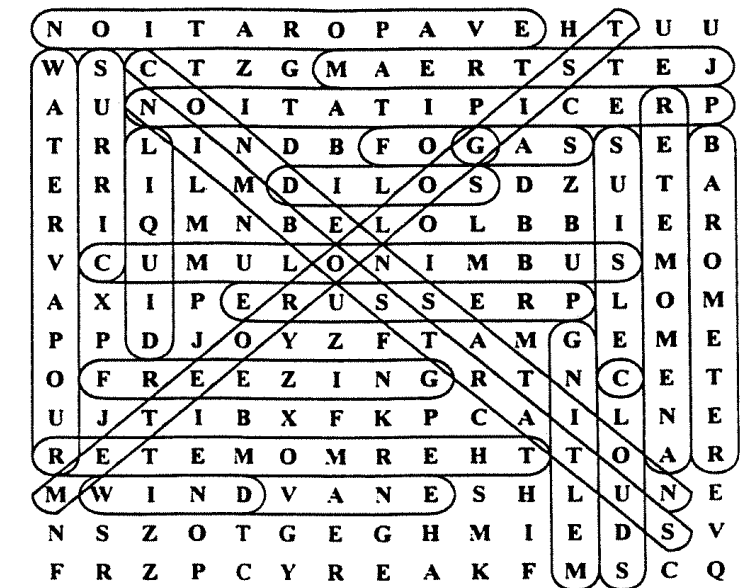
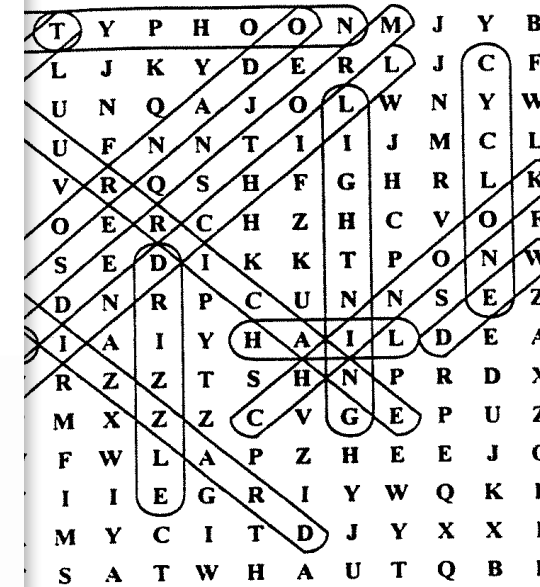
THUNDERSTORM  
TORNADO  
TYPHOON  
WEATHER  
WINDCHILL

F R O S T Y P H O O N M J Y B  
G H V E L J K Y D E R L J C F  
L Z E H U N Q A J O L W N Y W  
H L F Q U F N N T I I J M C L  
S J A P V R Q S H F G H R L K  
N Q T U O E R C H Z H C V O F  
O W B T S E D I K K T P O N W  
W E Q L D N R P C U N N S E Z  
R A I N I A I Y H A I L D E A  
B T U W R Z Z T S H N P R D X  
N H R T M X Z Z C V G E P U Z  
T E O W F W L A P Z H E E J O  
F R Q V I I E G R I Y W Q K E  
N M T A M Y C I T D J Y X X F  
S U T T S A T W H A U T Q B E

**ANNUAL LESSON #1 - Weather Wordsearches**

Wordsearches have been included. The first is less difficult than the second.

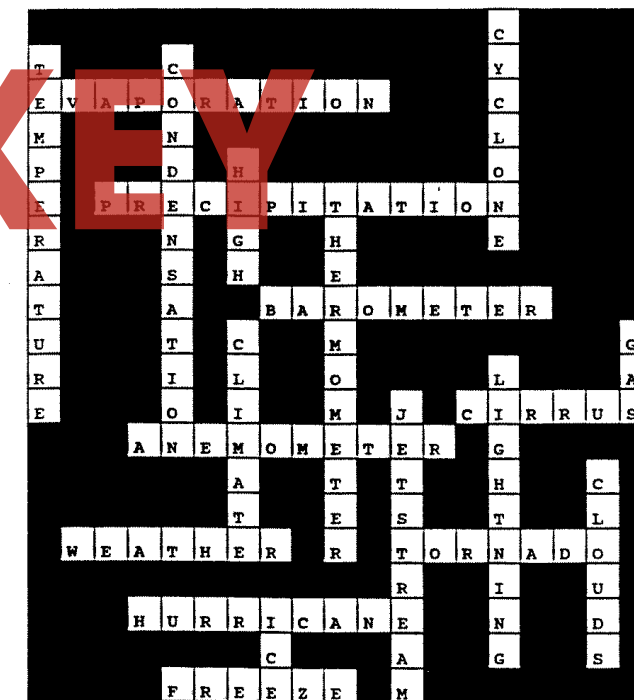
**Solutions**



**LESSON #2 - Weather Crossword**

This crossword is based on material in the notes and is a good review activity.

**Solution**



**ANSWER KEY**