

UNIT OVERVIEW

“Weather Instruments: Rain Gauges, Barometers, Humidity, and Thermometers” is a two week language arts unit intended for use with Grade Two/Three children. It can be used to strengthen the children’s reading and writing skills. Throughout this unit, children are involved in activities that focus their attention on language and how it is used. They brainstorm, use jot notes, write paragraphs, look up definitions in the dictionary, answer questions in complete sentences, and complete cloze activities.

A display of books about weather instruments should be set up in the classroom. The books motivate the children and encourage them to read for enjoyment and for information. Children refer to these books as they complete the daily activities in their student booklets. In addition, children are encouraged to read these books in their spare time and during silent reading.

Section One: Lesson Plans

Section One contains two weeks of lesson plans. The lesson plans describe the different teaching strategies for using the activities in each day’s lesson. Each lesson includes a spelling activity, a brainstorming activity, writing a paragraph, looking up words in the dictionary, answering questions in complete sentences, completing a cloze activity, playing a weather instruments word game, and a parent page.

Section Two: Student Booklets

Section Two includes a student booklet that is ready to be photocopied for student use. There are four pages that go along with each of the weather instruments being studied. The first page contains a number of jot notes about the weather instrument. The children determine the best order for the jot notes and then use the jot notes to write a paragraph or two about the weather instrument. The second page contains three vocabulary words. The children determine the meaning of each vocabulary word and then use the word in a sentence. The third page contains five questions about the weather instrument being studied. The children are encouraged to answer the questions using complete sentences. The fourth page contains a cloze activity for the children to complete, along with room to draw a picture of the weather instrument.

WORD SEARCH PUZZLES

Week 1 – List A

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

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| balloon | constant |
| contracts | determine |
| difference | direct |
| expands | graph |
| ground | higher |
| liquid | rainfall |
| rising | station |
| sunlight | |

WEATHER INSTRUMENTS WORD GAME

rain gauge	measures amount of rainfall
barometer	measures air pressure
psychrometer	measures humidity in air
thermometer	measures immediate temperature
thermograph	keeps constant record of temperature

WEEK TWO – DAY FIVE

Dear Parents: This worksheet reviews the material your child learned at school today. Take ten minutes to complete the activities on this page with your child.

Print the meanings of the following words:

- predict _____
- orbit _____
- speed _____

Answer the following questions in complete sentences:

- What is a weather satellite used for?

- Where does a weather satellite send the pictures of clouds?

- What do weathermen do with the pictures of the clouds?

- How do four satellites take pictures of the whole earth?

- When would it be helpful to use information from a weather satellite?

UNIT TEST

A. Instrument Definitions

Describe what each weather instrument is used for:

- weather balloon

- anemometer

- thermograph

- psychrometer

- radiosonde

to travel around the earth

water turns into vapour

vapour turns into water

ANSWER KEY

WEATHER REVIEW GAME ANSWER KEY

OTHER DEFINITIONS

Water vapour in the air – What is humidity?
Air surrounding the earth – What is atmosphere?
To travel around the earth – What is orbit?
Water turns into vapour – What is evaporation?
Vapour turns into water – What is condensation?

UMENT DEFINITIONS

Thermograph – What is 'keeps constant record of temperature'?
Weather balloon – What is 'used to gather information about storms'?
Radiosonde – What is 'used to gather information about storms'?
Anemometer – What is 'measures the speed of the wind'?
Weather satellite – What is 'sends pictures of the weather to earth'?

UMENT NAMES

Measures amount of rainfall – What is a rain gauge?
Measures air pressure – What is a barometer?
Measures humidity in the air – What is a psychrometer?
Measures temperature – What is a thermometer?
Measures direction of wind – What is a weather vane?

OTHER MEASUREMENTS

Measured in inches or millimetres – What is rain?
Measured in millibars – What is air pressure?
Measured on a centigrade or fahrenheit scale – What is temperature?
Measured by north, south, east, or west – What is wind direction?
Measured in miles per hour or knots - What is wind speed?

OR WEATHER FACTS

1000 millibars – What is the average air pressure?
Carries a radiosonde to earth – What is a parachute?
Gas used to keep weather balloons afloat – What is helium or hydrogen?
Special pilots who track hurricanes – Who are hurricane hunters?
Center of a storm – What is the eye?