

Weather Trackers Unit Plan Overview

Diagnostic Assessment: Administer the Diagnostic Assessment prior to beginning the unit. You might want to give it to students the week before you plan to begin. That way, you'll have time to score it and adjust the unit as needed.

DAY 1

Lesson Plan

Matter Matters

This is lesson one of a unit titled, Weather Trackers. Students learn by observation and hands-on activities the act of water changing form from a solid to a liquid to a gas.

Day 2

Lesson Plan

Rain Patterns

This is the second lesson in the unit Weather Trackers. Students have the opportunity to work in groups to draw the rain cycle and make their own “movie” using a large cardboard milk carton and heavy white paper. Students are assessed on their ability to identify the pattern of the rain cycle and to sequence the events in order.

Day 3

Lesson Plan

Cloud Watchers

This is the third lesson in the second grade unit on weather called Weather Trackers. Students identify the main types of clouds and the type of weather they typically bring as far as rain is concerned. The concept of matter as a gas and liquid will be observed by a classroom experiment where “clouds” are produced using hot water and ice. Students do a group activity where they draw their special cloud formations and make a class graph.

Day 4

Lesson Plan

Weather Wonderland

This is the fourth lesson on weather in a unit called Weather Trackers. This lesson primarily deals with types of tools that scientists use to study weather. Students have the opportunity to do a fun cooperative learning activity that will review other skills such as pictorial graphing.

Day 5

Lesson Plan

Fahrenheit Follies

This is the fifth lesson in the unit, Weather Trackers. This is a fun and entertaining lesson on temperature. Students learn about temperature using hands-on activities and games.

Days 6

Lesson Plan

Celsius Tells Temperature, Too

This is the sixth lesson in the Unit Weather Watchers. Students become aware that thermometer liquids expand or contract as temperature affects them. Concept of telling the temperature on a Celsius thermometer is introduced as students identify and record temperatures on Celsius thermometers through hands-on activities and games.

Instructions and handouts for this assessment are available as Summative Assessment #1 file attachment.

Day 7

Lesson Plan

Sensational Seasons

This is the seventh lesson in the Unit, Weather Trackers. Students learn how seasonal weather patterns affect temperature and their lives through concrete, hands-on activities.

Day 8

Lesson Plan

Weather Wonders

This lesson is the eighth lesson in the Unit Weather Trackers. This lesson will serve as a review for the unit's summative assessment. Students review weather concepts through interactive games, role-play and experiments

Days 9 and 10

Review and then administer the summative assessments. There are two—a written one and a performance one. Be sure to make time to review, if necessary, prior to administering either of the assessments.