

**Suggested Pre-Field Trip Activities  
for Weather at Wood Lake Nature Center**

<i>Vocabulary</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Meteorology</li> <li>•Thermometer</li> <li>•Weather Station</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Anemometer</li> <li>•Forecast</li> <li>•Temperature</li> <li>•Cloud Types (cirrus, stratus, cumulus)</li> </ul>

- \*Review vocabulary.
- \*Have students' list different sources to learn weather forecasts (i.e. Internet sites, news channels, radio, etc.).
- \*Using the Internet watch several different local news reports about the weather. Have students listen and watch for what weather vocabulary is used and what it means. Discuss why each forecast is not the exact same.
- \*Introduce the four compass directions to students.
- \*Have students keep weather journals for a few weeks that include basic weather data and sketches of the clouds and snow depth.
- \*Discuss as a class how to dress for the weather in Minnesota (and the weather field trip).
- \*Discuss how settlers in Minnesota predicted weather.
- \*Discuss the differences between weather and climate.

**Suggested Post-Field Trip Activities  
for Weather at Wood Lake Nature Center**

- \*Review vocabulary list.
- \*Have students compare weather at their school to that at Wood Lake and discuss differences.
- \*Have students work in groups to study weather in other areas of the country (midwest, southwest, southeast, mountain states, etc.).
- \*Have students pretend to be meteorologists giving a daily weather report for Minnesota using maps and correct vocabulary (videotape and watch for fun!).
- \*Compare and contrast weather in Minnesota in all four seasons.
- \*Read about weather extremes (i.e. blizzards, tornadoes, hurricanes, etc.).
- \*Ask a meteorologist from a local news station or the National Weather Service (Chanhassen) to visit your classroom and share with the students what their job is like.
- \*Have students work in small groups to make cloud keys to predict the weather like early settlers did.
- \*Find a favorite source for weather information and use it.

***Vocabulary***

- **Meteorology**
- **Thermometer**
- **Weather Station**

- **Anemometer**
- **Forecast**
- **Temperature**
- **Cloud Types**  
(cirrus, stratus, cumulus)

