

Title: Reporting the Weather

Introduction: As you watch a weather report on TV, you are often getting a lesson on weather or climate. A good meteorologist analyzes the weather using high technology and background knowledge to make the forecast. To explain why several things might happen besides what is forecast, the reporter will show why they think the weather will be what they forecast. In this activity, you will use what you know about weather and climate to make a weather newscast and explain a part of the pattern that produces weather.

Materials: butcher paper, markers, textbook,

Procedures:

1. With your partner, read the core curriculum below and decide which of the lettered "indicators" you wish to emphasize in your report.

Objective 2: Describe elements of weather and the factors that cause them to vary from day to day.

- a. Identify the elements of weather and the instruments used to measure them (e.g., temperature—thermometer; precipitation—rain gauge or Doppler radar; humidity—hygrometer; air pressure—barometer; wind—anemometer; cloud coverage—satellite imaging).
- b. Describe conditions that give rise to severe weather phenomena (e.g., thunderstorms, tornados, hurricanes, El Niño/La Niña).
- c. Explain a difference between a low pressure system and a high pressure system, including the weather associated with them.
- d. Diagram and describe cold, warm, occluded, and stationary boundaries (weather fronts) between air masses.
- e. Design and conduct a weather investigation, use an appropriate display of the data, and interpret the observations and data.

2. Use the current weather conditions and draw a weather map on your butcher paper. You can make-up conditions in other areas.
3. Use your textbook to research the information you will report on. Your weather forecast should be at least 3 minutes long and both partners should speak.
4. Be sure to include a forecast for the next day. See the rubric below.
5. Video tape or present your forecast to the class.

Rubric:

Requirement	0	1	2	3
Weather report uses information that clearly explains at least one indicator from the core curriculum.				
Report has visual aids that help the viewer understand the explanations.				
Both students speak knowledgably about the subject.				
Forecast makes sense based on the current weather and information from core and text.				