

What makes weather?

Lesson 6 Jigsaw Activity

For students to understand why changes in weather take place, they need to understand the three components of weather: temperature, air pressure and humidity.

Students in groups of three. (Not the groups they are usually in for their PBL) Group members will divide the three topics so that one student in each group is responsible for one of the following: temperature, air pressure or humidity. Next, give the students time to research their topic. During the exploration time, students will focus on gathering information about their assigned topic using the web as well as print materials. After the exploration time, invite students to meet with all of the other students who shared the same focus. (For example, all of the students assigned the topic of temperature will meet together.) Have these groups share what they learned so that they all become experts on their topic. Students may want to take notes during this time so that they can share them with their original group. Then, have the original groups of three get back together. Each expert will take a turn teaching the other members of the group about their weather component. You will need to circulate around to the groups to listen in, answer questions and monitor the information that is being shared.

Websites for exploration: (These are also posted on the class website)

How does changing temperature and humidity affect weather? (**all groups)

http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/wwatch/investigate/weather_maker.htm

air pressure resources:

<http://eo.ucar.edu/webweather/basic.html>

http://library.thinkquest.org/C0112425/child_airp_1.htm

http://kids.earth.nasa.gov/archive/air_pressure/

<http://www.edheads.org/activities/weather/glossary.htm#t1>

<http://www.factmonster.com/ipka/A0769510.html>

temperature:

<http://www.edheads.org/activities/weather/glossary.htm#t1>

<http://www.kidsgeo.com/geography-for-kids/0074-latitude-effects-temperature.php>

<http://eo.ucar.edu/webweather/basic.html>

<http://funphysics.jpl.nasa.gov/adventures/temperature-game.html>

humidity:

<http://www.kidsgeo.com/geography-for-kids/0106-humidity.php> (with song!)

<http://www.factmonster.com/ipka/A0769510.html>

http://library.thinkquest.org/C0112425/child_aim_wa_1.htm#3

<http://www.wildwildweather.com/humidity.htm>

As a whole class, discuss this learning experience. Allow students to ask any questions that they may still have about air pressure, temperature or humidity.

Give homework assignment: Tell students that their assignment to prepare for their next class they have to watch a television weather broadcast at home and make a list of everything that is included in the broadcast. (Give two days to complete this assignment) Give students handout [Weather Broadcast Notes](#) to provide guidance and structure for this assignment.