

CLASS PLAN

Mini Meteorologists

Children will find their inner meteorologist as they build critical science skills, including measuring, comparing, collecting data, and making predictions. They will explore the ingredients that create weather and use authentic weather tools to learn more about the world around them.

Location: Discovery Place Science

Program Area: Early Childhood

Duration: 50 minutes

Group Maximum: 25 students

Audience: PreK-K

Major Concepts:

- Meteorologists are scientists who collect and analyze a variety of weather data to understand and predict the weather
- Tools used by meteorologists to measure and predict weather
- Patterns of weather throughout the year and how those patterns are used to make predictions

North Carolina Essential Standards:

K.E.1: Understand change and observable patterns of weather that occur from day to day and throughout the year

North Carolina Foundations for Early Learning and Development:

CD-15q: Use an increasing variety of tools to investigate the world around them (measuring tools, balance, prism, droppers)

CD-10: Children show understanding of numbers and quantities during play and other activities

South Carolina Standards:

K-ESS2-1: Use and share observations of local weather conditions to describe patterns over time.

K-ESS3-2: Ask questions to understand the purpose of weather forecasting to prepare for and respond to severe weather

Next Generation Science Standards:

K-ESS2-1: Use and share observations of local weather conditions to describe patterns over time

Class Objectives:

Children will:

- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data to look for patterns and make predictions
- Define terminology associated with the study of meteorology (see vocabulary list below)
- Identify and use authentic meteorological tools
- Collect and analyze quantitative and qualitative data to make predictions

Methods and Activities:

- A brief introduction will allow discussion of meteorology and the study of weather.
- Children will be introduced to a variety of weather tools used by meteorologist to collect weather data.



DISCOVERY PLACE

- Children will collect quantitative weather data using authentic weather instruments and make predictions based on that data.
- Children will share their predictions with the group.
- Children will then look at qualitative data and discuss how it affects their predictions.

Key Vocabulary:

Weather, temperature, wind, precipitation, meteorology, quantitative data, qualitative data, rain gauge, anemometer thermometer, wind vane, prediction