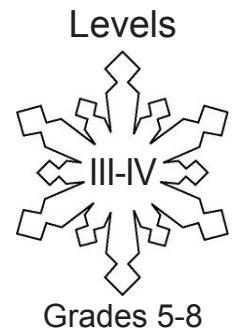


Elders' Weather Forecasting



Overview:

How do Elders forecast the weather? In this activity, students will interview an Elder to determine specific ways of forecasting the weather, then use one of those methods to create their own forecast.

Objectives:

The student will:

- interview an Elder;
- complete a weather forecast.

GLEs Addressed:

Science

- [5-8] SA1.1 The student demonstrates an understanding of the processes of science by asking questions, predicting, observing, describing, measuring, classifying, making generalizations, inferring, and communicating.
- [7] SD3.1 The student demonstrates an understanding of cycles influenced by energy from the sun and by Earth's position and motion in our solar system by describing the weather using accepted meteorological terms (e.g., pressure systems, fronts, precipitation).

Materials:

- STUDENT WORKSHEET: "Elder Weather Interview"

Activity Preparation:

1. Invite one or more Elders to your classroom to answer student questions about weather forecasting.
2. Make sure a snack and drink are available for the Elder.

Activity Procedure:

1. Review the four ways of weather forecasting that have been discussed: persistence, trends, climatology, and analog.
2. Explain that meteorologists have one more way of forecasting weather, sometimes called modeling. This method uses advanced computer programs to analyze many variables and predict future results based on past history.
3. Elders have their own way of forecasting weather. Discuss how Elders' methods of forecasting weather are similar to meteorologists. Elders use current data and past knowledge to make a prediction.
4. Explain that in this activity, students will interview an Elder to determine some ways in which they forecast weather. Then, they will make their own weather prediction using those methods.
5. Divide students into small groups. Distribute the STUDENT WORKSHEET: "Elder Weather Interview" and instruct each group to decide on and write down three questions they would like to ask an Elder regarding weather prediction.

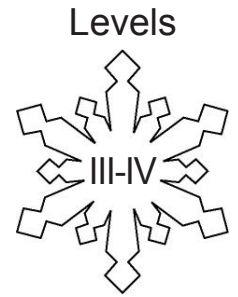
Answers:

Answers will vary depending upon the weather conditions.

Name: _____

Elder Weather Interview

Student Worksheet



1. List three questions you would like to ask an Elder regarding methods of weather predictions.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

2. Describe one method of weather prediction that was explained by an Elder.

3. If possible, use that method of weather forecasting to predict the weather for tomorrow. If it is not possible to use that method of forecasting, explain why.

4. Which of the five methods of forecasting do you believe is the most accurate? Why?
