



OFFICE OF K-12 SCIENCE & PLANETARIUM

SCIENCE PARENT NEWSLETTER

THIRD GRADE

UNIT 3

EARTH & SPACE SCIENCE

IN SCHOOL...

Third graders will begin to explore earth science, specifically the systems of weather that exist over our planet. Students will investigate weather patterns, where weather patterns occur and why, and identify typical weather in different parts of the world. The end of unit assessment will ask students to compile data to provide accurate predictions for a specific area and a specific season using their understanding of Earth science and weather.

STUDENTS WILL KNOW...	STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We can organize and use data to describe typical weather conditions expected during a particular season.• We can apply understanding of weather-related hazards and are able to make a claim about the merit of a design solution that reduces the impacts of such hazards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Represent data in tables and various graphical displays (bar graphs and pictographs) to reveal patterns that indicate relationships.• Make a claim about the merit of a solution to a problem by citing relevant evidence about how it meets the criteria and constraints of the problem.

AT HOME...

ASK YOUR STUDENTS...	ENGAGE YOUR STUDENTS...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does weather change over time and regions?• How can humans lessen the impact of weather-related natural resources?• What is typical weather in different parts of the world and during different times of the year?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scientists record patterns of the weather across different times and areas so that they can make predictions about what kind of weather might happen next.• Climate describes a range of an area's typical weather conditions and the extent to which those conditions vary over years.• Patterns of change can be used to make predictions.• A variety of natural hazards result from natural processes. Humans cannot eliminate natural hazards but can take steps to reduce their impacts.



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IN THE COMMUNITY...

- Sit down with your family and determine whether your family is ready for a weather emergency. You can go to <https://www.ready.gov/kit> or <https://www.ready.gov/severe-weather> for ideas and tips.
- Use a website like <http://www.intellicast.com/> to research the historic weather data for your zipcode. Do you find any patterns in the temperature or precipitation? Can you use the data to make a decision about a common core like painting your porch?
- Use the same sit to investigate the temperature and precipitation of another region of the United States. Based on the data can you make a prediction on the types of ecosystems that might be present?

U46 STEM Expo....

- Design a model to show case a solution to a problem created by hazardous weather.
- Design a model or conduct an investigation that creates a solution to a problem created by climate change.
- Design a conservation projects related to an issue created by climate change.