

Strange weather

Worksheet Teacher's notes

1. What is the weather? Do you know any of the elements of weather? Go to <http://www.econet.org.uk/weather/whatis.html> to find out.

There are seven elements of weather: visibility, air pressure, cloud cover, humidity, wind speed, wind direction, sunshine and precipitation.

Weather is the day-to-day conditions of a particular place. Climate is often spoken about at the same time as weather, but it is something quite different. The climate is the common, average weather conditions at a particular place over a long period of time (for example, more than 30 years). We learn about different climates around the world. Deserts have a hot and dry climate while the Antarctic has a very cold and dry climate.

2. Meteorologists predict the weather, it is a complicated and difficult process. Go to <http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/learning/science>
http://www.weatherquestions.com/How_are_weather_forecasts_made.htm
to find out how weather forecasts are made.

students learn about the process while watching the films

3. Sometimes the weather is difficult to predict. There have been many weather anomalies, some of them scary, some strange, and some amazing. Work in groups, read and prepare a short presentation for the class about those weather phenomena.

Group One - CLOUDS

Go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FMagDRCpJ14>, make notes on four types of clouds.

Then watch the strangest clouds: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v49RNXNzLTs>

Group Two - RAIN

Watch a Met Office film and find out why it rains: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQJsJRNJOfl>.

Then watch a BBC report about raining fish <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-27298939>.

Group Three- RAINBOWS

Go to <http://wwwp.cord.edu/faculty/manning/physics215/studentpages/genamahlen.html> and read what the rainbows are and how they occur in the sky.

Then go to <http://www.physics.org/article-questions.asp?id=58> to read about strange rainbow like circumzenithal arcs and double rainbows.

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Group four- WAVES

Go to <http://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/earth/oceanography/wave-energy1.htm> and read how the waves are created and what wave energy is. Then go to

<http://abcnews.go.com/Travel/photos/china-beach-swamped-algae-turns-sea-green-19584557/image-19584608>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-19716141> and find out how the waves can change our beaches and towns.

students own answers based on the information from the provided web pages

4. In English there are many idiomatic expressions with weather words. Look at the sentences below, can you guess what they mean?

- It never rains but it pours. *When one bad thing happens usually a worse thing happens too.*
- Every cloud has a silver lining. *There is always hope for the better in every bad situation.*
- He is always chasing rainbows. *someone who keeps chasing the dream and is never satisfied*
- She is very responsible and saves for a rainy day. *doesn't like to spend money, saves it for difficult times*
- He passed the exam and is on cloud nine. *extremely happy*
- If he thinks he will get promoted he has his head in the clouds! *dreaming, not being realistic*
- Please don't make waves, I don't want to fight tonight. *cause problems*