

Weather Scavenger Hunt Activity

Materials:

Weather questions worksheet (pages 2-3)
18 weather fact cards (pages 4-8)
Tape and scissors

Preparation

Print the fact cards on card stock or brightly-colored paper and cut them apart along the dotted lines.



Make copies of the weather questions worksheet (2-sided).
Each student will need his or her own copy.

Hide all 18 weather fact cards around your classroom where students will be able to find them. You can put them on the back of your classroom door, on chairs, on the computer keyboard, on the sides of student desks, or wherever you like.



You can have the kids work by themselves or with partners.

Don't be afraid to hide the facts in tough places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.

Examples of good hiding spots might include:

- sticking out of a book, like a bookmark
- the back of the classroom door
- laying flat on the bookshelf
- on the back of the teacher's chair
- on the side of your computer monitor

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.



Scavenger Hunt

Weather

Fact Card

1



The average lifespan of a tornado is only about 10 minutes.

Scavenger Hunt

Weather

Fact Card

2



The sunniest city on Earth is Yuma, Arizona. 91% of the daylight hours in Yuma are sunny, according to the Guinness Book of World Records.



Preview

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On July 10, 1910, the temperature in Death Valley, California reached 134°F (57°C). This is the hottest temperature ever recorded in the United States.



On July 21, 1983, the temperature at Vostok Station in Antarctica was -128°F (-89°C). This is the coldest temperature ever recorded on Earth.



Scavenger Hunt

Weather

Fact Card

5



Wind speed is measured with an instrument called an anemometer.



Wind direction is measured with a wind vane.

Scavenger Hunt

Weather

Fact Card

6



Humidity is the amount of water (or moisture) in the air.



Preview

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Lightning can reach over 50,000°F (27,700°C). This is hotter than the surface of the sun!

The driest state in the USA is Nevada. It receives only about nine inches of rainfall per year.

The wettest state in the USA is Louisiana. On average, Louisiana receives about 59 inches of rain per year.



Scavenger Hunt

Weather

Fact Card

9



The safest place to be when a tornado is near is in the basement of a house or building.

Scavenger Hunt

Weather

Fact Card

10



Lightning is attracted to metal and water. Lightning does not usually strike things made of rubber or plastic.



Preview

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Crickets chirp faster when the temperature is warm. They chirp slower when the temperature is cool.



Cumulus clouds are fluffy, white clouds that look like cotton. Low, flat, gray clouds are stratus clouds.



Scavenger Hunt

Weather

Fact Card

13



Fog is a cloud that is near the ground.

Scavenger Hunt

Weather

Fact Card

14



Before 1979, all hurricanes had female names. From 1979 onwards, hurricanes were given both male and female names.



Preview

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A waterspout is a tornado over water.

The weakest hurricanes are called "Category 1 Hurricanes." The strongest hurricanes are called "Category 5 Hurricanes." Category 5 hurricanes have winds stronger than 155 miles per hour (249 kilometers per hour).



Scavenger Hunt

Weather

Fact Card

17



Rainbows can form after a rainstorm. They are most likely to form in the early morning or later afternoon when the sun is low in the sky.

Scavenger Hunt

Weather

Fact Card

18



Someone who is trained to predict the weather is called a meteorologist.



Preview

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Weather Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: What is the average lifespan of a tornado?

Fact Card 2: What is the sunniest city on Earth?

Fact Card 3: What was the hottest temperature ever recorded in the United States?

Fact Card 4: What was the coldest temperature ever recorded in the United States?



Fact Card 7: How hot is a bolt of lightning?

Fact Card 8: What is the driest state in the United States?

Fact Card 9: Where is the safest place to be during a tornado?

Weather Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 10: Name two things that lightning is attracted to.

Fact Card 11: Do crickets chirp faster or slower when the weather is warm?

Fact Card 12: What are fluffy, cotton-like clouds called?

Fact Card 13: What is fog?



Fact Card 16: How fast are the winds in a category 5 hurricane?

Fact Card 17: During what time of the day are rainbows most likely to form?

Fact Card 18: What is a meteorologist?

Weather Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 1: What is the average lifespan of a tornado?

10 minutes

Fact Card 2: What is the sunniest city on Earth?

Yuma, Arizona

Fact Card 3: What was the hottest temperature ever recorded in the United States?

134 ° F or 57 ° C

Fact Card 4: What was the coldest temperature ever recorded in the United States?

-128 ° F or -89 ° C



Fact Card 7: How hot is a bolt of lightning?

over 50,000 ° F (or 27,700 ° C)

Also accept: Hotter than the surface of the sun.

Fact Card 8: What is the driest state in the United States?

Nevada

Fact Card 9: Where is the safest place to be during a tornado?

in the basement of a house or building

Weather Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card 10: Name two things that lightning is attracted to.

metal and water

Fact Card 11: Do crickets chirp faster or slower when the weather is warm?

faster

Fact Card 12: What are fluffy, cotton-like clouds called?

cumulus clouds

Fact Card 13: What is fog?

a cloud that is near the ground



Fact Card 16: How fast are the winds in a category 5 hurricane?

over 155 miles per hour or 249 kilometers per hour

Fact Card 17: During what time of the day are rainbows most likely to form?

in the morning or evening when the sun is low in the sky

Fact Card 18: What is a meteorologist?

a person trained to predict the weather
