June: Unit 5 C:Extreme Weather

Content Area: **Science**
Course(s):
Time Period: **June**
Length: **3 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Unit Overview

Hurricanes, blizzards, and tornadoes disrupt daily life, and sometimes take lives. In this concept, you will learn how accurate weather forecasting can help people prepare for these extremes.

Enduring Understandings

Lesson Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students should be able to:

- Describe examples of extreme weather, including hurricanes, floods, thunderstorms, tornadoes, and drought.
- Explain how thunderstorms and tornadoes form.
- Describe the effects of thunderstorms and tornadoes.
- Explain how hurricanes form.
- Describe the effects of hurricanes that make landfall.
- Describe the effects of too much or too little precipitation.

Essential Questions

- **Overarching Question**
  - How do Earth's surface processes and human activities affect each other?
- **Focus Question**
  - How do natural hazards affect individuals and societies?
- **Lesson Questions**
  - What is extreme weather?
  - How do thunderstorms and tornadoes form and what are their effects?
  - How do hurricanes form and what are their effects?
  - What are the effects of too much or too little precipitation?

- **Can You Explain?**
    - What conditions create storms such as tornadoes and hurricanes, and what effects do these storms have?

Instructional Strategies & Learning Activities

The Five Es

- The Five E Instructional Model

  Science Techbook follows the 5E instructional model. As you plan your lesson, the provided Model Lesson includes strategies for each of the 5Es.

- Engage (45–90 minutes)

  Students are presented with the phenomena of extreme weather, such as thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hurricanes. Students begin to formulate ideas around the Can You Explain? (CYE) question.

- Explore (135 minutes)

  Students investigate questions about the causes and effects of extreme weather. Students interact with media assets, analyze weather data, and complete an Exploration about how hurricanes form.

- Explain (45–90 minutes)

  Students construct scientific explanations to the CYE question by including evidence of howstorms such as hurricanes and tornadoes are formed and the effects these storms have.

- Elaborate with STEM (45–135 minutes)

  Students apply their understanding of extreme weather as they learn about careers in storm rescue, investigate flooding, and consider the technology that helps scientists predict and track hurricanes.

- Evaluate (45–90 minutes)

  Students are evaluated on the state science standards, as well as Standards in ELA/Literacy and Standards in Math standards, using Board Builder and the provided concept summative assessments.

Integration of Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills

Students will learn about careers in storm rescue.

6-8.MS-ESS2-5	Collect data to provide evidence for how the motions and complex interactions of air

	masses result in changes in weather conditions.
6-8.MS-ESS3-5.7.1	Stability might be disturbed either by sudden events or gradual changes that accumulate over time.
6-8.MS-ESS2-4.ESS2.C.1	Water continually cycles among land, ocean, and atmosphere via transpiration, evaporation, condensation and crystallization, and precipitation, as well as downhill flows on land.
6-8.MS-ESS2-4.ESS2.C.2	Global movements of water and its changes in form are propelled by sunlight and gravity.
6-8.MS-ESS2-6.ESS2.D.1	Weather and climate are influenced by interactions involving sunlight, the ocean, the atmosphere, ice, landforms, and living things. These interactions vary with latitude, altitude, and local and regional geography, all of which can affect oceanic and atmospheric flow patterns.
6-8.MS-ESS2-6.ESS2.D.2	The ocean exerts a major influence on weather and climate by absorbing energy from the sun, releasing it over time, and globally redistributing it through ocean currents.
6-8.MS-ESS3-3.ESS3.C.1	Human activities have significantly altered the biosphere, sometimes damaging or destroying natural habitats and causing the extinction of other species. But changes to Earth's environments can have different impacts (negative and positive) for different living things.
6-8.MS-ESS3-5.ESS3.D.1	Human activities, such as the release of greenhouse gases from burning fossil fuels, are major factors in the current rise in Earth's mean surface temperature (global warming). Reducing the level of climate change and reducing human vulnerability to whatever climate changes do occur depend on the understanding of climate science, engineering capabilities, and other kinds of knowledge, such as understanding of human behavior and on applying that knowledge wisely in decisions and activities.
CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP9	Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP.K-12.CRP10	Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.K-12.CRP12	Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.
CAEP.9.2.8.B.1	Research careers within the 16 Career Clusters ® and determine attributes of career success.
CAEP.9.2.8.B.4	Evaluate how traditional and nontraditional careers have evolved regionally, nationally, and globally.
TECH.9.4.8.CI.1	Assess data gathered on varying perspectives on causes of climate change (e.g., cross-cultural, gender-specific, generational), and determine how the data can best be used to design multiple potential solutions (e.g., RI.7.9, 6.SP.B.5, 7.1.NH.IPERS.6, 8.2.8.ETW.4).
TECH.9.4.8.CI.3	Examine challenges that may exist in the adoption of new ideas (e.g., 2.1.8.SSH, 6.1.8.CivicsPD.2).
TECH.9.4.8.CI.4	Explore the role of creativity and innovation in career pathways and industries.
TECH.9.4.8.CT.1	Evaluate diverse solutions proposed by a variety of individuals, organizations, and/or agencies to a local or global problem, such as climate change, and use critical thinking skills to predict which one(s) are likely to be effective (e.g., MS-ETS1-2).
TECH.9.4.8.CT.2	Develop multiple solutions to a problem and evaluate short- and long-term effects to

	determine the most plausible option (e.g., MS-ETS1-4, 6.1.8.CivicsDP.1).
TECH.9.4.8.CT.3	Compare past problem-solving solutions to local, national, or global issues and analyze the factors that led to a positive or negative outcome.
TECH.9.4.8.TL.2	Gather data and digitally represent information to communicate a real-world problem (e.g., MS-ESS3-4, 6.1.8.EconET.1, 6.1.8.CivicsPR.4).
TECH.9.4.8.TL.3	Select appropriate tools to organize and present information digitally.
TECH.9.4.8.TL.5	Compare the process and effectiveness of synchronous collaboration and asynchronous collaboration.
TECH.9.4.8.GCA.2	Demonstrate openness to diverse ideas and perspectives through active discussions to achieve a group goal.
TECH.9.4.8.IML.1	Critically curate multiple resources to assess the credibility of sources when searching for information.
TECH.9.4.8.IML.5	Analyze and interpret local or public data sets to summarize and effectively communicate the data.
TECH.9.4.8.IML.7	Use information from a variety of sources, contexts, disciplines, and cultures for a specific purpose (e.g., 1.2.8.C2a, 1.4.8.CR2a, 2.1.8.CHSS/IV.8.AI.1, W.5.8, 6.1.8.GeoSV.3.a, 6.1.8.CivicsDP.4.b, 7.1.NH. IPRET.8).
TECH.9.4.8.IML.8	Apply deliberate and thoughtful search strategies to access high-quality information on climate change (e.g., 1.1.8.C1b).
	Examples of factors include human activities (such as fossil fuel combustion, cement production, and agricultural activity) and natural processes (such as changes in incoming solar radiation or volcanic activity). Examples of evidence can include tables, graphs, and maps of global and regional temperatures, atmospheric levels of gases such as carbon dioxide and methane, and the rates of human activities. Emphasis is on the major role that human activities play in causing the rise in global temperatures.
	An individual's strengths, lifestyle goals, choices, and interests affect employment and income.
	Examples of the design process include examining human environmental impacts, assessing the kinds of solutions that are feasible, and designing and evaluating solutions that could reduce that impact. Examples of human impacts can include water usage (such as the withdrawal of water from streams and aquifers or the construction of dams and levees), land usage (such as urban development, agriculture, or the removal of wetlands), and pollution (such as of the air, water, or land).
	Emphasis is on how air masses flow from regions of high pressure to low pressure, causing weather (defined by temperature, pressure, humidity, precipitation, and wind) at a fixed location to change over time, and how sudden changes in weather can result when different air masses collide. Emphasis is on how weather can be predicted within probabilistic ranges. Examples of data can be provided to students (such as weather maps, diagrams, and visualizations) or obtained through laboratory experiments (such as with condensation).

Technolgy and Design Integration

Technology is fully integrated with the Discovery Techbook

Interdisciplinary Connections

LA.RI.6.1	Cite textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
LA.RST.6-8.1	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts.
LA.RST.6-8.2	Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
LA.RST.6-8.3	Follow precisely a multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks.
LA.RI.6.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings.
MA.6.NS.C.5	Understand that positive and negative numbers are used together to describe quantities having opposite directions or values (e.g., temperature above/below zero, elevation above/below sea level, credits/debits, positive/negative electric charge); use positive and negative numbers to represent quantities in real-world contexts, explaining the meaning of 0 in each situation.
LA.RI.6.7	Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.
LA.RST.6-8.9	Compare and contrast the information gained from experiments, simulations, video, or multimedia sources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic.
LA.RI.6.10	By the end of the year read and comprehend literary nonfiction at grade level text-complexity or above, with scaffolding as needed.
LA.WHST.6-8	Writing History, Science and Technical Subjects
LA.WHST.6-8.1	Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.
LA.W.6.1	Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
LA.WHST.6-8.1.B	Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources.
LA.WHST.6-8.1.D	Establish and maintain a formal/academic style, approach, and form.
LA.WHST.6-8.1.E	Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
LA.WHST.6-8.2	Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.
LA.W.6.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.
LA.WHST.6-8.2.A	Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information using text structures (e.g., definition, classification, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, etc.) and text features (e.g., headings, graphics, and multimedia) when useful to aiding comprehension.
	Production and Distribution of Writing
LA.WHST.6-8.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.WHST.6-8.5	With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
LA.WHST.6-8.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.
LA.WHST.6-8.7	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.

LA.WHST.6-8.8	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
LA.WHST.6-8.9	Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.WHST.6-8.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Differentiation

Struggling Students	ELL	Accelerated Students
1. Read the reading passage Tale of a Twister together as a class, stopping after key passages to check for understanding and clarify important information. 2. Students who have never experienced drought or blizzards may struggle with understanding the impact of these weather events. Have students explore additional media resources to improve their understanding.	1. Enhance Spanish-speaking students' understanding by pointing out the English/Spanish cognates in this concept: hurricane/el huracán and tornado/el tornado. 2. After completing the Brief Constructed Response Extreme Weather, students can work with a partner to review each other's responses. Student pairs should check the accuracy of each answer by finding the relevant support in the Techbook.	1. Challenge students to compare and contrast the source of energy and major source of damage from hurricanes and tornadoes. 2. Challenge students to explain why tornados usually form in the center of the United States.

Additional notes:

Differentiation in science can be accomplished in several ways. Once you have given a pre-test to students, you know what information has already been mastered and what they still need to work on. Next, you design activities, discussions, lectures, and so on to teach information to students. The best way is to have two or three groups of students divided by ability level.

While you are instructing one group, the other groups are working on activities to further their knowledge of the concepts. For example, while you are helping one group learn the planet names in order, another group is researching climate, size, and distance from the moon of each planet. Then the groups switch, and you instruct the second group on another objective from the space unit. The first group practices writing the order of the planets and drawing a diagram of them.

Here are some ideas for the classroom when you are using differentiation in science:

- Create a tic-tac-toe board that lists different activities at different ability levels. When students aren't involved in direct instruction with you, they can work on activities from their tic-tac-toe board. These boards have nine squares, like a tic-tac-toe board; and each square lists an activity that corresponds with the science unit. For example, one solar system activity for advanced science students might be to create a power point presentation about eclipses. For beginning students, an activity might be to make a poster for one of the planets and include important data such as size, order from the sun, whether it has moons, and so on.

- Find websites on the current science unit that students can explore on their own.
- Allow students to work in small groups to create a project throughout the entire unit. For example, one group might create a solar system model to scale. Another group might write a play about the solar system. This is an activity these groups can work on while they are not working directly with you.

Differentiation in science gets students excited to learn because it challenges them to expand their knowledge and skills, instead of teaching the whole group concepts they have already mastered.

Modifications & Accommodations

Refer to QSAC EXCEL SMALL SPED ACCOMMOCATIONS spreadsheet in this discipline.

Modifications and Accommodations used in this unit:

IEP and 504 Accommodations will be utilized.

Formative Assessments

Assessment allows both instructor and student to monitor progress towards achieving learning objectives, and can be approached in a variety of ways. **Formative assessment** refers to tools that identify misconceptions, struggles, and learning gaps along the way and assess how to close those gaps. It includes effective tools for helping to shape learning, and can even bolster students' abilities to take ownership of their learning when they understand that the goal is to improve learning, not apply final marks (Trumbull and Lash, 2013). It can include students assessing themselves, peers, or even the instructor, through writing, quizzes, conversation, and more. In short, formative assessment occurs throughout a class or course, and seeks to improve student achievement of learning objectives through approaches that can support specific student needs (Theal and Franklin, 2010, p. 151).

Formative Assessments used in this unit:

Assessments are located in Techbook links above.

Summative Assessments

Summative assessments evaluate student learning, knowledge, proficiency, or success at the conclusion of an instructional period, like a unit, course, or program. Summative assessments are almost always formally graded and often heavily weighted (though they do not need to be). Summative assessment can be used to great effect in conjunction and alignment with formative assessment, and instructors can consider a variety of ways to combine these approaches.

Summative assessments for this unit:

Assessments are located in Techbook links above.

Instructional Materials

Discivery Techbook and lab materials as required.

Standards

SCI.MS-ESS2	Earth's Systems
SCI.MS-ESS2-1	Develop a model to describe the cycling of Earth's materials and the flow of energy that drives this process.
	Emphasis is on the processes of melting, crystallization, weathering, deformation, and sedimentation, which act together to form minerals and rocks through the cycling of Earth’s materials.
SCI.MS-ESS2-2	Construct an explanation based on evidence for how geoscience processes have changed Earth's surface at varying time and spatial scales.
	Emphasis is on how processes change Earth’s surface at time and spatial scales that can be large (such as slow plate motions or the uplift of large mountain ranges) or small (such as rapid landslides or microscopic geochemical reactions), and how many geoscience processes (such as earthquakes, volcanoes, and meteor impacts) usually behave gradually but are punctuated by catastrophic events. Examples of geoscience processes include surface weathering and deposition by the movements of water, ice, and wind. Emphasis is on geoscience processes that shape local geographic features, where appropriate.
SCI.MS.ESS2.C	The Roles of Water in Earth’s Surface Processes
	Water’s movements—both on the land and underground—cause weathering and erosion, which change the land’s surface features and create underground formations.
	Emphasis is on how air masses flow from regions of high pressure to low pressure, causing weather (defined by temperature, pressure, humidity, precipitation, and wind) at a fixed location to change over time, and how sudden changes in weather can result when different air masses collide. Emphasis is on how weather can be predicted within probabilistic ranges. Examples of data can be provided to students (such as weather maps, diagrams, and visualizations) or obtained through laboratory experiments (such as with condensation).
	Assessment does not include recalling the names of cloud types or weather symbols used on weather maps or the reported diagrams from weather stations.
	Planning and Carrying Out Investigations

	Planning and carrying out investigations in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to include investigations that use multiple variables and provide evidence to support explanations or solutions.
SCI.MS.ESS2.C	The Roles of Water in Earth's Surface Processes
	The complex patterns of the changes and the movement of water in the atmosphere, determined by winds, landforms, and ocean temperatures and currents, are major determinants of local weather patterns.
SCI.MS.ESS2.D	Weather and Climate
	Because these patterns are so complex, weather can only be predicted probabilistically.
	Cause and Effect
	Cause and effect relationships may be used to predict phenomena in natural or designed systems.
SCI.MS-ESS2-6	Develop and use a model to describe how unequal heating and rotation of the Earth cause patterns of atmospheric and oceanic circulation that determine regional climates.
SCI.MS.ESS2.D	Weather and Climate
	Weather and climate are influenced by interactions involving sunlight, the ocean, the atmosphere, ice, landforms, and living things. These interactions vary with latitude, altitude, and local and regional geography, all of which can affect oceanic and atmospheric flow patterns.
	The ocean exerts a major influence on weather and climate by absorbing energy from the sun, releasing it over time, and globally redistributing it through ocean currents.
SCI.MS-ESS3	Earth and Human Activity
SCI.MS-ESS3-1	Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how the uneven distributions of Earth's mineral, energy, and groundwater resources are the result of past and current geoscience processes.
	Emphasis is on how these resources are limited and typically non-renewable, and how their distributions are significantly changing as a result of removal by humans. Examples of uneven distributions of resources as a result of past processes include but are not limited to petroleum (locations of the burial of organic marine sediments and subsequent geologic traps), metal ores (locations of past volcanic and hydrothermal activity associated with subduction zones), and soil (locations of active weathering and/or deposition of rock).
SCI.MS-ESS3-2	Analyze and interpret data on natural hazards to forecast future catastrophic events and inform the development of technologies to mitigate their effects.
	Emphasis is on how some natural hazards, such as volcanic eruptions and severe weather, are preceded by phenomena that allow for reliable predictions, but others, such as earthquakes, occur suddenly and with no notice, and thus are not yet predictable. Examples of natural hazards can be taken from interior processes (such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions), surface processes (such as mass wasting and tsunamis), or severe weather events (such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods). Examples of data can include the locations, magnitudes, and frequencies of the natural hazards. Examples of technologies can be global (such as satellite systems to monitor hurricanes or forest fires) or local (such as building basements in tornado-prone regions or reservoirs to mitigate droughts).