

Weather Unit Book, Video, Internet Resource Suggestions



*The number following the author's name is how many copies are in the JMRL Library system. Have fun!
Step-up readers followed by more in-depth reading:*

1. Scholastic question and answer series, Can it Rain Cats and Dogs? by Melvin and Gilda Berger (9)
Why does the weather keep changing? Where do hurricanes start? What is El Nino? Great format to learn the basics about weather. Step-up reader.
2. Weather by Seymour Simon (5)
A favorite author, Mr. Simon explains how tomorrow can have clear skies, drizzle, sleet, snow, thunderstorms, hail and fog *ALL* in the forecast. Somewhere on Earth each forecast is found on the same day! Great pictures and information.
3. Feel the Wind by Arthur Dorros (2)
This is a lets-read-and-find-out science book. Easy reading and colorful drawings tell all about wind.
4. Rain and Hail by Franklyn M. Branley (4)
This is a lets-read-and-find-out science book Learn how rain and hail are formed.
5. Weather Words and What they Mean by Gail Gibbons (5)
A basic introduction to word that are used to describe the weather. Fog, clouds, frost, fronts, and many more. Also included is explanation of weather phenomena. Colorful pictures enhance the simple text. This is a great introduction to weather terms.
6. Weather Forecasting by Gail Gibbons (10)
Another great title by Mrs. Gibbons. Excellent information and beautiful, colorful pictures make this step-up reader a good choice. Highly recommend!
7. The Big Storm by Bruce Hiscock (2)
On the last day of March in 1982 a storm swept off the Pacific Ocean. It battered the California coast with high winds and heavy rain then moved inland. Follow one of the strongest spring storms ever recorded, all the way to New York City where it dumped a foot of snow on opening day of baseball season! Very interesting story!
8. Hurricane Watch by Franklyn M. Branley (10)
This is a lets-read-and-find-out science book. Easy reading and colorful drawings about hurricanes.
9. Tornado Alert by Franklyn M. Branley (8)
This is a lets-read-and-find-out science book. Easy reading and colorful drawings about tornadoes.
10. The Cloud Book by Tomie de Paola (9)
An easy-reading book with simple drawings and text. Learn about the 10 most common clouds. Great introduction to weather.
11. Snow is Falling by Franklyn M. Branley (10)
This is a let's-read-and-find-out-science book. An easy-reading book all about snow.
12. Storms, a New True Book by Ray Broekel (5)
Learn about storms, wind, clouds, and much more. Easy to read with great pictures.
13. Weather by Paul Humphrey (4)
Easy reading with great pictures. Included are some fun experiment ideas. There are two pages with cloud pictures and their names. Great!
14. Storm Chasers, tracking twisters by Gail Herman (8)
Level 3 reader. Very interesting information on tornadoes! Very well done as you follow the meteorologist (storm chaser) as he studies the path of the tornado. Highly recommended!
15. Weather Experiments, A New True Book by Vera Webster (10)
A chapter book with great pictures, all about weather. What are clouds? Where does snow come from? What is air pressure? Read on to find out!
16. Scholastic Question and answer series, Do Tornadoes Really Twist?, Questions and Answers about Tornadoes and Hurricanes by Melvin and Gilda Berger (10)
Neat question/answer approach to information about tornadoes and hurricanes. Great!

More in-depth reading

17. The Weather Sky by Bruce McMillan (4)
A very factual approach to learning weather. Good information for the student who wants to know more!
18. Seasonal Weather, Autumn Weather by John Mason (1)
More in-depth reading. Covers seasons and why they occur, how clouds are formed, what autumn weather is like, and much more. Good information.
19. Seasonal Weather, Winter Weather by John Mason (1)
More in-depth reading. Covers the winter season and the weather conditions that occur this time of year. Good information.
20. Storm Warning, Tornadoes and Hurricanes by Jonathan D. Kahl (1)
When Hurricane Andrew hit the coast of Florida and Louisiana in 1992, more than a million people fled inland to escape the storm's 150-mile-per-hour winds. In Memphis, Tennessee, hundreds of baby snakes dropped out of the sky after a tornado sucked them into thunderstorm clouds! An in-depth look at tornadoes and hurricanes.

Reference:

21. Fun with Science, Weather by Steve Parker (1)
Full of experiments that allow children to investigate such topics as the Sun and how it affects weather, wind patterns, ocean currents, clouds and rain, thunder and lightning and more. Some of these experiments will be used during class.
22. Reader's Digest, How the Weather Works by Michael Allaby (9)
An introduction to weather, filled with hundreds of experiments about weather. Some of these will be done during our class time. Great resource!
23. Weather : air masses, clouds, rainfall, storms, weather maps, climate by Paul E. Lehr, R. Will Burnett, and Herbert S. Zim (1)
Full-color, easy-to-use guide. A great reference book to look up weather terms.
23. National Audubon Society, First Field Guide, Weather by Jonathan D. W. Kahl (8)
An in-depth reference book to look up weather terms. Great cloud pictures and their names are provided in this one.

Videos

1. Stormchasers, Learn about Weather and Climate by Thinkeroo Productions (2)
This is a way cool science thinkeroo video for curious kids. It is excellent! Max Orbit is extremely theatrical and keeps you on the edge of your seat as he explains many cool and interesting things about weather. He goes over what an anemometer, barometer, and rain gauge are. Then, he shows how to do experiments to make each one. There are follow-up quizzes to reinforce what he went over. Great filming of tornadoes, storms, hurricane formation and much more. Highly recommended!
2. Nova, Adventures in Science, Lightning! (1)
Lightning takes you on a high voltage trip into the most electrically charged weather in the world—culminating in a dazzling lightning show set to music. This title is a 60 minute video which follows scientists through their study of lightning. Full of very good information on electricity and weather. Explains the electrical component of lightning and how it works. Very good information. A more advanced film, for older children and adults.
3. Weather for Children, All about rain, snow, sleet & hail by Schlessinger Media (1)
(geared for grades k-4) Precipitation comes in many different forms and is caused by a wide variety of forces. But what makes the sky open up? And how is water changed into all of these different forms? Very good!
4. Weather for Children, All about wind & clouds by Schlessinger Media (1)
This program takes students on an exploration of these everyday weather forms, where they'll learn more about the various types of clouds and how the wind affects them. (geared for grades k-4)
5. Weather for Children, All About Climate and Seasons by Schlessinger Media (1)
(geared for k-4) When it's warm and sunny where you are, it might be very different in other places of the world. Why do the seasons change? And what causes different regions in the world to have different climates? These and other questions are answered in this video. Very good.
6. Weather fundamentals series, Climate and Seasons by Schlessinger Media (1)
Looks at weather patterns associated with climate and the four seasons and discusses weather patterns around the world. Very well done. (geared to grades 4-7)
7. Weather fundamentals series, Clouds by Schlessinger Media (1)
Presents types of clouds, how they form, and the important role they play in weather and the water cycle. Very well done. (geared to grades 4-7)
8. Weather fundamentals series, Hurricanes & tornadoes by Schlessinger Media (1)
Through satellite images, Doppler radar, and storm footage, this program examines hurricanes and tornadoes; how they form and the destruction they cause. Great! (geared to grades 4-7)
9. Weather fundamentals series, Meteorology by Schlessinger Media (1)
Looks at the gathering and interpretation of data by meteorologists to create the daily weather forecast. Great! (geared to grades 4-7)

10. Weather fundamentals series, Rain and Snow by Schlessinger Media (1)
Explains types of precipitation including rain, snow, sleet, hail, fog, and mist. Also covers the water cycle and typical precipitation patterns in North America. Very good. (geared to grades 4-7)
11. Weather fundamentals series, Wind by Schlessinger Media (1)
Looks at how wind is created, how wind speed and direction are measured, and the flow of winds across the planet. Very good. (geared to grades 4-7)
12. Earth's Atmosphere by Schlessinger Media (2)
Students will learn about how the layers of atmosphere and why each is important to the survival of life on our planet [and] why the atmosphere is responsible for **weather** [including] hurricanes! (geared for grades 5-8) Very good.
13. Earth Science for Children, All About the Water Cycle by Schlessinger Media (2)
Even though nearly three-fourths of the world's surface is covered by water, only a very small portion of it is fresh water. Discover the amazing process by which the Earth's water supply has been recycled over the years. Great information on precipitation which relates to the weather unit. Excellent!
(geared for grades k-4) 23 minutes long.
14. Wonders of Weather, Lightning by the Learning Channel (1)
This title is 30 minutes long and includes a lot of footage of lightning.
Lightning is one of the most powerful of nature's forces. It can be 30 miles long, but less than an inch thick. Meet people who've been hit by lightning and survived. Lightning is caused by static electricity, so this title will be included in our electricity unit as well as weather.
My Comments: This title is very informative and has a lot of great filming of how lightning is formed and lightning strikes. Be aware that if your child is young and fearful of storms, this would not be a good video to see. The interviews with two people who were hit by lightning could be a little scary. Nathaniel (4th grade) and I watched it and he was not afraid and we learned a lot! Excellent filming and information. For the student who is interested in lightning and would like to learn more, this is a great film!
15. Wonders of Weather, Hurricane by the Learning Channel (1)
With wind speeds up to 200 mph, hurricanes are known as nature's engines of death and destruction. Filming of hurricanes and their damage is included. This is more mature in nature in that the filming shows such destruction and tells of the loss of lives hurricanes cause, but is appropriate for primary students. This would be a wonderful opportunity to talk to your child about God's protection over us each day of our lives! Sixty minutes long.
16. Weather by Dorling Kindersley Vision (2)
This is in the eyewitness series. A whirlwind tour of the Earth's turbulent atmosphere, revealing the forces that make a day fair or foul. There is some mythology included concerning which gods caused stormy weather.
17. The Magic School Bus Kicks Up a Storm by Scholastic (3)
On a hot summer day, the bus takes the class on a wild trip through the skies to investigate weather.
Typical animated Magic School Bus story. Entertaining, with limited educational value.
18. Modern Marvels: Weather Predictions, a History Channel presentation
A 50-minute historical documentary on weather throughout history. How did our forefathers predict the weather? What severe weather storms have caused loss of lives throughout history? This is one for the student who is attentive to listen to a documentary approach, and wants to learn about the history of weather. Very good!

website activities

1. http://www.dnr.state.sc.us/climate/sercc/education/wordsearch/wordsearch_index.html
Click on any of the weather topics to try out a word search. Fun!
2. <http://www.dnr.state.sc.us/climate/sercc/education/glossary/index.html>
Check out the glossary of climate words on this page.
3. <http://oncampus.richmond.edu/academics/education/projects/webunits/weather/clouds.html>
This is an excellent page of cloud pictures and an explanation of what each kind looks like and what type of weather they cause. Don't miss this one!
4. <http://oncampus.richmond.edu/academics/education/projects/webunits/weather/types.html>
This is called the 'types of weather' page. Click on rain, the sun, and severe weather to learn more about these areas of weather. Thunderstorms, floods, hurricanes, and tornadoes can be seen once you click on severe weather. Very interesting information and cool pictures!
5. <http://oncampus.richmond.edu/academics/education/projects/webunits/weather/how.html> Interesting, on the factors that shape the weather.
6. <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/geology/label/watercycle/labelanswers.shtml> Printout of the water cycle.



