

2009 ACCEerator Grand Program  
Project title: Weather — Watching and Predicting  
Home School — Pryor Middle School

We began our study of weather in mid February. The new equipment has been a tremendous asset to our study. In the past we have always set up homemade barometers and rain gauges. We used our Neo Science lab this year, and continued to let the students make their own barometers. However, now we can let them compare that data to our own weather station. The students still check the weather station daily and follow cloud formations. The new equipment has definitely made the weather and how it effects our lives, much more of a reality.

During our study of the weather, the students checked wind direction, wind speed, temperature, air pressure, cloud cover and humidity, all the while learning how each one of these effects our everyday weather. They made their own charts and tracked the weather daily, which gave us the opportunity to predict the weather. We compared individual data and made class graphs.



We played games with the weather ball on the days the weather permitted us to be outside.

We also had a guest meteorologist visit to share his experiences with the students. He was a big help in setting up our equipment and teaching us how to use it. He also brought hand held equipment that meteorologists use in the

field. One of the standards, SC.6.E.7.7., investigates how natural disasters have affected human life in Florida. Our guest speaker shared some wonderful information and had numerous slides to share with the students. We realized that most of our students have some memory of Katrina but none of other storms like Ivan.

Our new equipment will remain in place and let students for years to come have the experience of forecasting and predicting weather. They will have a better understanding of how the weather affects our lives, both today and in the future.

