Global Winds Treasure Hunt and Research Exercise

Overview:
Print off and laminate the names of enough winds. Hide them in the classroom or in the school grounds. As the students individually, in pairs or small groups to find a wind. They should then research the wind they have found, answering questions like:

- Where is the wind found? Use an atlas or Google Earth to find the place and see how the local geography affects the wind (are there mountains nearby?)
- When does the wind occur?
- How long does it last for and how big is the area it affects?
- Do people like this wind?

Their research could be presented using PowerPoint or large sheets of sugar paper, and/ or could be used as the basis for a story or newspaper report about the wind.

Differentiation:

Low ability
Give one web address to look for information
Prescribe questions for them to answer about their wind e.g. where can this wind be found?

Medium ability
Give two web addresses to look for information
Suggest things to find out about their wind

High ability
Do not guide web search
Ask them to find out about their wind
Wind examples:

The Helm Wind
The Foehn Wind
The Chinook Wind
Mistral
Santa Ana wind
The Trade wind
Roaring forties
Sirocco
Khamsin
Williwaw

Good places to look for information:

Wikipedia (but can be a bit too technical!)
http://www.weatheronline.co.uk/reports/wind/ (still a bit on the technical side)
http://www.theweatherclub.org.uk/features/article/wind-of-change (limited number of winds)
http://www.metlink.org/other-weather/weather-hazards/local-winds/

Background Information for Teachers:

Primary_geography_wind.pdf