Weather Discussion Cards
Developed by Lesley Hunter, Creavery Primary School

Teacher’s Notes

In this activity, students share weather information to work out what the weather is in different places. It is suitable for upper KS1 or KS2.

It can be used with different abilities and improves listening skills, group work and to encourage every group member to participate.

Differentiation can be incorporated by giving poor readers less information (temperature cards only) or appointing a classroom assistant to read for a group of children. Alternatively, a set of easier clues can be produced and the teacher just has to note what colour of card they are printed on.

How to use

The information is put on to separate cards and divided among the group of children (4 to 6) who are told not to let anyone else see their cards. Going round the group, each person reads the “clue” on one of their cards until all cards have been read. At no time do the cards get put down for others to see, but a pupil can ask another to re-read their card(s). The group then has to work collaboratively to use the information to complete the table or put weather symbols on the map.

Each group is given a simple outline of the British Isles with 5 towns marked, labelled A to E (see below).

The aim is to complete the table below or to select the correct weather symbols for each town.

A weaker group could be given only the temperature information.

Table (with answers for teachers)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Temperature (°C)</th>
<th>Weather</th>
<th>Wind direction (from)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>rain</td>
<td>NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>rain</td>
<td>NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>sun</td>
<td>NE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>sun</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>cloudy</td>
<td>SE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The warmest town has a wind coming from the opposite direction to the coldest.

Only 1 wind is coming from the NE.

D has a slight breeze coming from the east.

The winds at A and B are coming from the same direction.

The wind from the NW is bringing rain.

The 2 nearest to each other will have sunny periods.

The 2 on the coast will need umbrellas.

1 town is cloudy but no rain is expected.

A and D have a difference in temperature of 5°C.

E is 3°C warmer than D.

2 of the towns are both 6°C.

Temperatures increase as you travel south.

The most northerly town is the coldest at 2°C.
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Option 2: Cut out and Supply Symbols

2  6  6  7  10

RMetS
Option 3 (simplest): Cut Out and Supply a Complete Symbol Set

2°C

6°C

6°C

7°C

10°C