**Title: Weather and Hurricanes**

**Description:**

Students in a sixth grade science class will, over the course of a semester, learn a majority of the aspects associated with hurricanes and weather in general.

**Introduction:**

Students should be familiar with weather terminology, weather patterns, and weather predictions. Using this exercise, students will feel more comfortable about the topic of weather in general.

**Group Size**: Whole Class (Groups of 3)

**Learning Objective:**

By the end of the semester, the students will be able to read a barometer, search for weather forecasts, predict hurricane patterns and understand weather terminology. At the completion of this exercise each student will be comfortable with majority of the aspects associated with weather and have a full understanding of everything involved. The sixth-grade students will know how to track hurricanes and understand patterns. Each student will feel content when listening to weather forecasts and comprehend

**Guiding Question**

Why do the students need to understand the facets of weather?

**Materials**

1. Internet – search for weather forecasts
2. Stormpulse (Hurricane Tracking software)
3. Barometer – provided in class
4. Wikispace Account
5. Television – provided in class

**Procedures**

1. Students will be tracking hurricanes (simulated hurricanes if no actual ones are currently being followed) throughout the semester
2. During the tracking period, the sixth graders will be using actual barometers to calculate weather information about the hurricanes as well as outside the classroom to give them real-time use
3. Each one of the groups will use Stormpulse to learn hurricane patterns, terminology, etc. and become familiar with how they are formed, followed, and categorized
4. Each student will watch a minimum of 15 minutes of the weather channel each day and come to class with a brief paragraph describing the weather forecast for the next day and if anything significant is going to occur within the next 48 hours.
5. At the end of each week, the group of students will be required to add all the new information obtained throughout the week onto the Wikispace account they created.

**Assessment**

Each group will be assessed on the amount and quality of the information displayed on their Wikispace account at the end of each week. Each of the brief paragraphs due at the beginning of each class will also count toward the final grade. Stormpulse will also be viewed over to make sure the proper steps had been taken to make proper predictions about the paths of oncoming hurricanes.

**Answer Key/Rubric**

Exceptional knowledge of terminology and topics displayed on Wikispace account

Predictions on Stormpulse using proper techniques

Correct use of Barometer (having the ability to properly use and calculate information)

Detailed account of weather forecast in daily assignment

Proper hurricane tracking account

Benchmark/Standard: SC.6.E.7.7