**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:**

Students will understand how to properly track a hurricane while becoming knowledgeable about all the aspects surrounding weather and weather prediction.

**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
6. Hurricane-related website

**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 pick just one day per week to discuss any weather related items. This could include, weather prediction (forecasts), current weather, upcoming storms or any significant weather-related occurrences happening worldwide.
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 that was 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