Weather Forecast

Grade 3

Name _____ Date _____

Remember: A **forecast** predicts the weather. **Meteorologists** use data and patterns to make forecasts and help people plan and stay safe.

Check the forecast each morning for a week. Was it right?

Predicting the Weather



A **weather forecast** is a prediction of what the weather will be like. Scientists who study and predict weather are called **meteorologists**.

Meteorologists use data from weather stations, satellites in space and weather balloons. They look for patterns. For example, dark clouds and falling air pressure often mean rain is coming.

Forecasts use **symbols** to show the weather quickly: a sun for sunny, a cloud with drops for rain, a cloud with a lightning bolt for thunderstorms, and a snowflake for snow.

Forecasts help people plan. A farmer can harvest crops before a storm. A family can pack umbrellas. And if a dangerous storm is coming, forecasts give people time to stay safe.

1. Check your understanding

Circle the best answer.

1. What is a weather forecast?

(a) A prediction of the weather (b) A type of cloud (c) A thermometer

2. What is a meteorologist?

(a) A doctor (b) A scientist who predicts weather (c) A pilot

3. What might dark clouds mean?

(a) Snow in summer (b) A sunny day (c) Rain is coming

4. How do forecasts help farmers?

(a) They plan around storms. (b) They grow taller crops. (c) They make rain.

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2. Pack for the forecast

Circle the forecast each item is best for.

1	sunscreen	sunny day	rainy day	snowy day
2	umbrella	sunny day	rainy day	snowy day
3	mittens	sunny day	rainy day	snowy day
4	sunglasses	sunny day	rainy day	snowy day
5	rubber boots	sunny day	rainy day	snowy day
6	a toboggan	sunny day	rainy day	snowy day

3. Think like a scientist

Answer in a complete sentence.

1. **The forecast says thunderstorms this afternoon. What should your class do about outdoor recess?**

Answer Key

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1. Check your understanding

1. What is a weather forecast?

(a) **A prediction of the weather** (b) A type of cloud (c) A thermometer

2. What is a meteorologist?

(a) A doctor (b) **A scientist who predicts weather** (c) A pilot

3. What might dark clouds mean?

(a) Snow in summer (b) A sunny day (c) **Rain is coming**

4. How do forecasts help farmers?

(a) **They plan around storms.** (b) They grow taller crops. (c) They make rain.

2. Pack for the forecast

		sunny day	rainy day	snowy day
1	sunscreen	✓		
2	umbrella		✓	
3	mittens			✓
4	sunglasses	✓		
5	rubber boots		✓	
6	a toboggan			✓

3. Think like a scientist

Sample answer.

1. **The forecast says thunderstorms this afternoon. What should your class do about outdoor recess?**
   We should plan indoor recess, because lightning is dangerous during a thunderstorm.