

Summer Weather Camps – Educational Outreach at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln



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UNL Weather Camp
Participants:
11-15 year old students

UNL Weather Camp Times:

One week in mid-June Monday - Friday (9am-5pm) Family picnic, awards, Friday 5-8pm



Learning about careers in science

Micro-climatology exercise at the football stadium

What happens at Weather Camp?

Students are engaged in hands-on activities, field experiments, seminars, tours of research facilities, and workshops that expand their knowledge of atmospheric sciences, weather and forecast models, climate science and environmental instrumentation.

Weather Camp Goals:

Learn group problem solving skills; develop leadership skills; learn how to take weather observations and forecast the weather; learn how to do research and create a research poster; and, learn about science careers through first-hand exposure to educational and career opportunities in atmospheric sciences.



Watching live news and weather



At the TV studio



The map shows (in black) the existing Weather Camps and (in red), weather camps that are new and under development.

NATIONAL WEATHER CAMPS:

UNL is one of several National weather



Exploring weather instruments

Student comments:

"I never knew there were others like me out there."

"Can we all come back next year, this was the most fun I want to do this again!"

"When I was there I felt like I belonged."

It is clear this helps the student reaffirm his/her choice of a career path.



All campers did a research project

On Campus Daily Schedule:

Morning weather map discussion conducted by our staff
Class room visits by local scientists
(university and state and federal agencies)
Class room hands-on experiments and demonstrations
Guided Internet access to work on individual research projects
Outside the building to use weather instruments



NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist lecture



Daily outside play

Off Campus Field Trips:

- 1. National Weather Service Omaha: (toured office; met with a forecaster; met with warning coordination meteorologist who gave a presentation and students played "Weather Jeopardy" prepared by him
- 2. Emergency Management Office
- 3. UNL Football stadium to conduct a micro-climate study of the stadium with weather instruments"
- 4. Channel 10/11 KOLN TV studio, Lincoln, watched live news and weather in the studio, met with their weathercasters, played with the green screen



Camp counsellors are former UNL weather campers



Classroom learning about weather







Interested in starting a Weather Camp?National Weather Camp Coordinator:

National Weather Camp Coordinator: Mike Mogil hmmogil@weatherworks.com

Summer Weather Camp at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln June 10-14, 2013



Graduation Friday evening



UNL Weather Camp participants, June 2013



Playing "Are You Smarter than a Weather Camper?" with parents Friday evening



Micro-Climate of the football stadium



Conducting an outside experiment



Emergency Management Office



Tornado! In front of our tornado mural



Research project on display



Daily weather briefings with camp staff



Physics of water balloon launching



Weather campers on TV!



Camper dinner and award ceremony



Campers on stage performing their "camp skits" for the parents after the cookout



Playing weather "Hit or Myth"