

WILD ABOUT WEATHER:
Shake, Rattle and Roll

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1. INTRODUCTION

Atmospheric Pressure plays a major role in the way we live our daily lives. High Pressure means "happy weather" and Low Pressure brings the dreaded "lousy weather." It's the Low Pressure that most people fear since it is usually associated with either inclement weather or weather hazards. Extremely strong storms associated with "lousy weather" can truly make people fearfully shake, rattle, or in many cases roll with the rushing waters. Though these hazards are spine tingling and exciting, they can, and frequently are, very dangerous and may even be life-threatening. A major focus of this program is to examine the various weather hazards, their causes and effects, and their influence on society.

2. NATURAL DISASTERS

Severe weather, usually associated with Low pressure systems, includes such phenomena as thunderstorms, lightning, heavy rain, strong winds, blizzards, tornadoes and hurricanes. Recently, however, more people have lost their lives and experienced property damage due to flash floods. Participants will explore each of these weather monsters through a series of exciting ideas, songs and activities that will address the issues of global weather.

3. OVERVIEW

An important goal of this program is to engage everyone in knowing how to protect themselves in case of a disaster. Awareness, preparation and knowledge are the keys to safety and ultimately survival.

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Atmospheric Education Resource Agents will involve participants in an exploration of atmospheric interactions which often precipitate hazardous global weather monsters. Severe weather affects everyone and the instability of the atmosphere, along with geographic land forms, plays a major role in our daily activities. Appropriate musical connections, concept strategies, and societal impacts of naturally occurring weather-related incidences will be investigated.

4. SUMMARY

Weather hazards can strike quickly and without warning. People can be forced to evacuate their homes, or in some instances, be confined to their homes or work places. What would you and your family do if basic services such as water, gas, electricity or telephones were cut off? People cope best with disaster when they are prepared. Global populations can become quite complacent until faced with sudden change. The focus of this program is to shake participants into activities, rattle their brains into action and get everyone on a roll with songs and scientifically accurate strategies for teaching and learning about weather.