

# Wild Weather

*Students have a blast as they see how much hot air can lift, simulate a sea breeze, and explore clouds.*

## **SUMMARY:**

Children get weather-wise in this climate-controlled class! A demonstration using air pressure helps students understand that air is made up of matter and children discover how air affects weather. Children try out tools that meteorologists use to measure weather and see how weather affects their environment. They discuss global weather patterns and see a jet stream model. Children take home their own weather station – fun in any season!

## **EDUCATIONAL VALUE:**

Students know that weather can change from day to day, and that many factors are measured to describe and predict weather conditions. One can collect and compare weather data in order to predict the likelihood of a particular weather condition occurring. They know how to read basic weather instruments: thermometer, barometer, anemometer, wind vane, and rain gauge. Students also can identify atmospheric conditions (presence and type of clouds [stratus, cirrus, cumulous], fronts) that are associated with predictable weather patterns. Students know that local weather conditions are influenced by global factors such as air and water currents and learn about jet streams.



## **TAKE-HOME MESSAGE:**

- 1 Air is all around us. Air changes affect the weather.
- 2 Meteorologists use specialized instruments for weather prediction.
- 3 Global streams influence local weather.

## **TAKE-HOME PRODUCT:**

Mad Science® Sun Beads



## **North Carolina Essential Standards:**

Understand weather patterns and phenomena, making connections to the weather in a particular place and time.

- 5.E.1.1 Compare daily and seasonal changes in weather conditions (including wind speed and direction, precipitation, and temperature) and patterns.
- 5.E.1.2 Predict upcoming weather events from weather data collected through observation and measurements.
- 5.E.1.3 Explain how global patterns such as the jet stream and water currents influence local weather in measurable terms such as temperature, wind direction and speed, and precipitation.