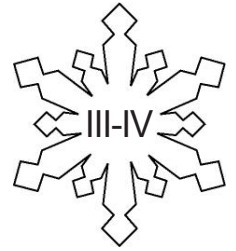


# Observing the Weather \_\_\_\_\_

## 5-Day Weather Journal

Levels



Grades 5-8

### Overview:

During this five-day project, students use traditional Native ways of observation to create a daily weather journal.

### Objectives:

The student will:

- observe the weather for five days using Native observational guidelines;
- record their weather observations; and
- make a prediction about the next day's weather.

### GLEs Addressed:

#### *Science*

- [5-8] SA1.1 The student demonstrates an understanding of the processes of science by asking questions, predicting, observing, describing, measuring, classifying, making generalizations, inferring, and communicating.
- [5] SE2.1 The student demonstrates an understanding that solving problems involves different ways of thinking, perspectives, and curiosity by investigating a problem or project over a specified period of time and identifying the tools and processes used in that project.

### Materials:

- STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET: Level III-IV "Traditional Weather Observations"
- STUDENT WORKSHEET: Level III-IV "Observing the Weather: 5-Day Weather Journal"

### Activity Procedure:

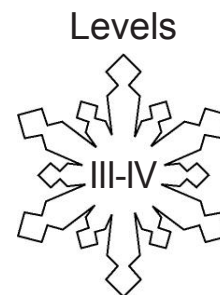
1. Distribute the STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET: "Traditional Weather Observations" and the STUDENT WORKSHEET: "Observing the Weather: 5-Day Weather Journal."
2. Explain to students that they will be keeping a weather journal for five days, based only information gleaned from observing the weather in the traditional Native way. Students should use Savoonga Elder Chester Noongwook's Rules of Weather Observations found on their Student Information Sheets.

### Answers to Student Worksheet:

Answers will vary.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Traditional Weather Observations Student Worksheet



## Savoonga Elder Chester Noongwook's Rules of Weather Observations

- First thing, get out early in the morning, and check the wind and the sky conditions, whether the sky is cloudy, and also whether it is cold or warm in terms of your body feeling;
- In the old days, we always used to go down to the sea shore every morning—to check the ice and weather conditions at the water (sea level), how the current is moving, and where is the tide;
- Always talk to other people about weather and ice conditions, listen to other people's minds to see whether it is good to go out hunting;
- Check for any change in wind and weather condition; we were told to watch out for weather all the time; either we are on the ice or on shore—every hour, every minute or listen to other boats what they are saying;
- Keep watching for any change in water because of current or clouds or waves—any sign of water change is very important;
- You can never make a good forecast for tomorrow based upon today's weather. Better go out and check it in the evening. Make a guess and check it next day: it is better to see whether it is correct or not.

Source: Oozeva, Conrad, Noongwook, Chester, Noongwook, George, Alowa, Christina, and Igor Krupnik. (2004) *Watching Ice and Weather Our Way*. Washington DC: Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution.

## A Sample of Chester Noongwook's Daily Weather Journal:

Date: January 12, 2001

Today's Weather:

It is very windy today, but there are breaks in the clouds. It is very cold....

Tomorrow's Forecast:

...It looks to me that the weather will get better later on this evening or by tomorrow.

