

# PARENT BRIEFING

## Module

## Weather

- Identify layers of the atmosphere and what each does.
- Understand that the relationship among the rotation, revolution, and tilt of Earth determines the seasons.
- Identify types of clouds and understand the type of weather signified by each.
- Understand types of air masses and fronts and how each contributes to weather patterns.

## Session Focus

**1** Weather Measurement

**2** Light Intensity

**3** Hydrologic Cycle

**4** Clouds

**5** Heat Transfer and Coriolis Force

**6** Air Masses and Fronts

**7** Severe Weather, Windchill, and Heat Index

### Dear Parent,

As parents and teachers, we realize it can be hard to get a child to discuss what he or she is learning in school. We hope the information provided on this page will assist you in communicating with your child about what he or she is learning.

For the next few days, your child will be learning about how local weather is predicted and explore elements of weather systems by completing the *Weather* Module.

As your child's best teacher, your participation in the learning process is extremely important.

### Words students will learn in this Module include:

- anticyclone
- convection current
- cumulonimbus cloud
- cyclone
- dew point
- front
- heat index
- isotherm
- jet stream
- relative humidity
- specific heat
- stratus cloud
- troposphere

### Questions for discussion

During the course of this Module, your child will be assessed on key concepts and activities. You might want to discuss these concepts with your child.

He or she will be asked to:

- List instruments used to measure temperature, atmospheric pressure, humidity, and wind speed. (*Temperature: thermometer; barometric pressure: barometer; humidity: hygrometer; wind speed: anemometer.*)
- Explain what happens to the intensity of light reaching Earth as the light's angle changes. (*As the angle increases, i.e., as you move farther from the equator, the intensity of light reaching Earth decreases.*)
- Explain air mass abbreviations such as "cP" and "mT" and tell where each originates. (*cP, or continental polar, originates over the land mass of Canada. mT, or maritime tropical, originates over a tropical water body, such as the Gulf of Mexico.*)

What did you learn in school today?

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_

