

Target Strategies

3rd Grade - Water and Climate



Investigation 1

I can conduct investigations to observe the properties of water.

I can compare how water drops interact with four materials; paper towel, waxed paper, aluminum foil, and writing paper.

I can observe that water soaks into absorbent materials and forms dome-shaped beads on waterproof materials.

I can observe that water domes always move downhill, and that size and angle of slope affect the speed at which domes move down a slope.

I can set up an investigation to see how much water a dry sponge soaks up by measuring its mass, volume, or both.

I can use natural materials, including living and dead plant materials and earth materials to simulate rain and observe what happens.

Investigation 2

I can compare the temperature of three cups of water, using fingers as gauges.

I can measure temperature more accurately using a thermometer.

I can build a thermometer and conduct an investigation to see what happens when the thermometer is placed in hot and cold water.

I can observe that some objects sink in water and some float.

I can understand that objects that float are less dense than water and objects that sink are more dense.

I can observe that liquid water has a greater mass than ice.

I can make predictions about the behavior of ice in water and explain my observations because of its properties.

I can conduct investigations to find the best place for an animal to stay warm or cool.

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Investigation 3

I can compare weather from meteorologists' forecasts and historical data to make predictions about weather..

I can observe through investigations that things dry because of evaporation.

I can observe that surface area affects evaporation rates.

I can observe that temperature affects evaporation rates.

I can observe that water vapor in the air condenses into a liquid on cold surfaces.

Investigation 4

I can collect data to find typical weather patterns in specific regions.

I can describe world climate regions based on my understanding of weather.

I am introduced to ways that people manage natural hazards. I can discuss engineering methods to deal with floods and droughts.

Investigation 5

I can understand what happens when water is mixed with other earth materials.

I can investigate that soils can drain water at different rates.

I can investigate which soils are best for plant growth.

I can design and construct a simple waterwheel to pull and lift an object.