

Weather Wise



You're planning a great day — a basketball game with friends followed by an outdoor lunch. Then, your plans fall apart when you discover the sky has turned gray and rain is pouring down. If only you had read the weather forecast in the newspaper, you could have planned for an indoor day of bowling and burgers instead.

The weather information in your newspaper can help you learn how to gather and process data.

Here is a weather map showing information for the United States. You can see temperatures around the country and where weather systems are found. The map uses numbers, pictures and colors to give you different information. Look carefully at the map and the keys that go with it to see the range of information.

Be sure you know the answers to these questions before you do the rest of the activities on this page:

- What do the colors tell you?
- What information is shown using numbers?
- What do the little pictures (like the ones of snowflakes and drops) tell you?

After carefully studying the map solve these problems:

1. Choose any five cities and find the average of their high temperatures.
2. Name five states in which it is not raining.
3. Where is the warmest region in the country?
4. Find your state on the map. Write a one-sentence description of the weather there. Then write a one-sentence description comparing it to what the weather is actually like today.

5. How much warmer is the high temperature in Kansas City than the low temperature in Detroit?
6. Where is a cold system located? What is the temperature in that area?
7. Look at what you are wearing today. Locate a place on the map where you would be most comfortable in that outfit.

