



“HOME OF THE WORLD’S WORST WEATHER LIVE”

Mount Washington Observatory Presents The Science of Thunderstorms
May 6, 2020

The following instructions represent additional resources for continued study of the topics covered in our “Mount Washington Observatory Presents The Science of Thunderstorms” online class. All materials are the property of Mount Washington Observatory. Any websites included are the property of the individual website owners and have been reviewed by a Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium educator.

ACTIVITY SHEET: **Introduction to Thunderstorms**



Since 1932, scientists living at the top of Mt. Washington, New Hampshire have been collecting weather data used in forecasting and climate research. How do they do it?

In this program we will learn all about one of the most hazardous weather scenarios that our observers face on the mountain: **Thunderstorms!**

Visit the [National Severe Storms Laboratory](#) and answer:

- ★ *What is a thunderstorm?:*
- ★ *What are the minimum requirements for a thunderstorm to be called “severe”?:*
- ★ *What are the most significant types of hazards associated with thunderstorms?*
- ★ *What kind of damage do they cause?*
- ★ *What’s the difference between a Severe Thunderstorm Watch and Warning?:*

Where Do Thunderstorms Happen?:

Go to the [National Weather Service’s Jetstream](#) program to learn about how frequently thunderstorms occur across the United States. Answer the following:

- ★ *Where do thunderstorms occur most frequently in the US?*
- ★ *How many mean annual thunderstorm days occur where you live?*
- ★ *Where do thunderstorms occur least frequently in the US?*

Recipe for a Thunderstorm:

Hit the “NEXT” button at the bottom of the webpage and continue on to learn about [how thunderstorms form](#).

- ★ *Name the 3 ingredients necessary to create a thunderstorm:*
- ★ *What is the source of moisture for thunderstorms where you live?*
- ★ *What impact do warmer oceans have on precipitation?*

If you want to have your questions answered by Weather Observers at Mount Washington Observatory, join us for our “Home of the World’s Worst Weather Live” programs on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:15 AM Eastern on our Facebook page and submit a question during the program! Can’t make it live? We’ll have recorded versions of the programs available after they air on our webpage [MountWashington.org/classroom](#). If you’d like to send your question in ahead of time, email Education@mountwashington.org and we’ll try our best to answer your question live from the summit!

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