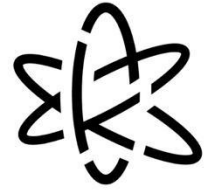




Sixth Grade Science

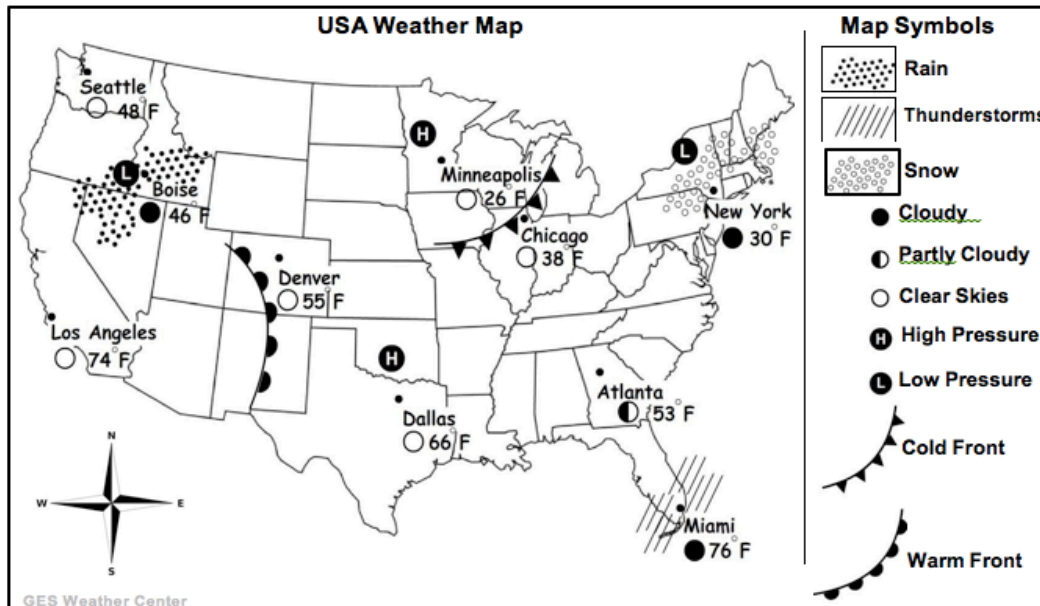
6th Grade Science Activity 3

How can weather maps predict weather?



Directions: This handout goes with a KCS Teacher Video. If you have access to the video, watch the video before doing this activity. You can find the videos here <https://www.knoxschools.org/Page/21816>

Weather Maps are a tool used by meteorologists to forecast the weather. Using symbols, colors, and numbers, weather maps show important information that a meteorologist can use to make a weather prediction. A current weather map can show current temperatures, cloud cover, rain or snow showers, High and Low pressures and weather fronts. Different symbols are used on weather maps to make the information easier to understand and interpret.



Complete the “Which City?” questions using the map and key above. Your choices:

Atlanta—Boise—Chicago—Dallas—Denver—Los Angeles—Miami—Minneapolis—New York—Seattle

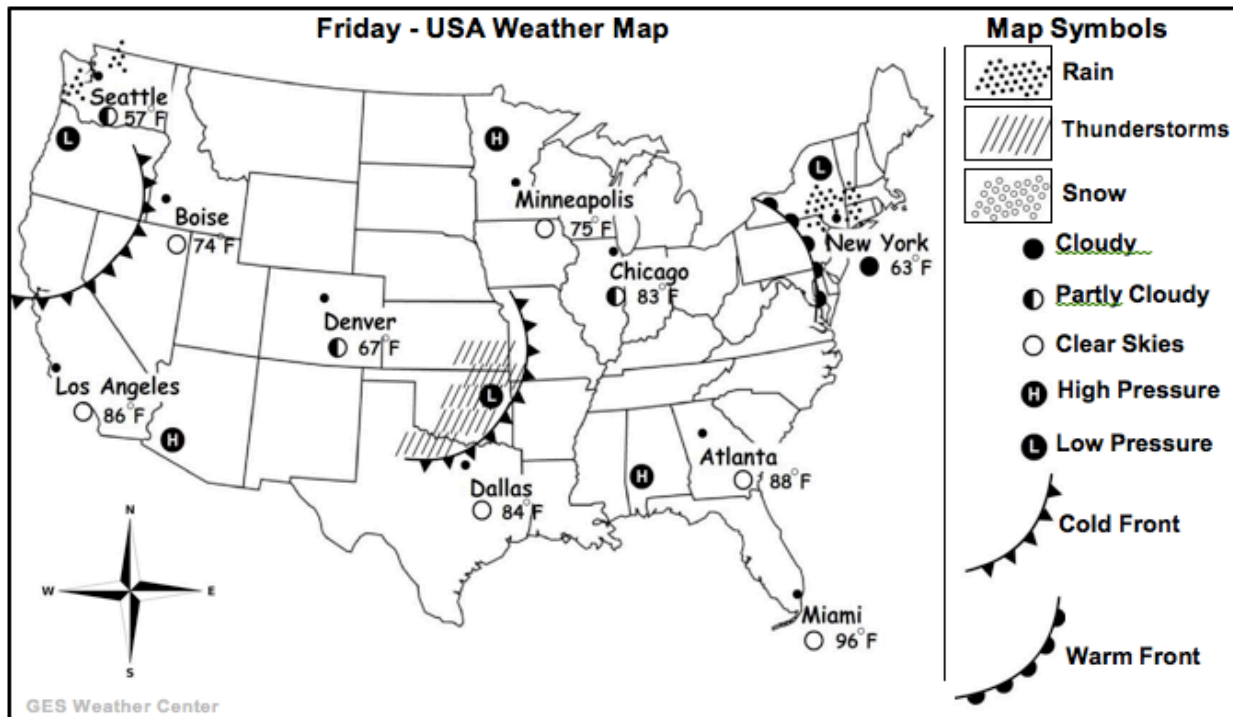
1. Which city is having *thunderstorms*? _____
2. Which city is currently having snow? _____
3. Which city has the highest temperature on the map? _____
4. Which city has the lowest temperature on the map? _____
5. Which city has Partly Cloudy skies? _____
6. Which two cities are closes to High pressure? _____
7. Which city is very near a warm front? _____



Weather Maps: Forecast Practice

Read the information below. Then use the weather map and symbols to complete the forecast questions below.

In the United States, the weather generally moves across the country from west to east. Meteorologists use this pattern to help predict the weather, as fronts, storms or pressure systems move across the country. Meteorologists can accurately predict the weather between 24 and 48 hours in advance. See if you can use the map to predict the weather in the cities listed below.



Weather Forecast Questions:

The above map shows the weather on Friday. Use the map and circle, highlight, or type an X beside the best weather forecast for Saturday for each city in the chart below. The first one is done for you. Think about what you know about warm and cold fronts, high and low pressure areas.

City	Forecast 1	Forecast 2	Forecast 3
New York	Sunny Skies	Warmer Temperature	Snow
Los Angeles	Cooler Temperatures	Rain	Thunderstorms
Dallas	Thunderstorms	Warmer Temperature	Clear Skies
Minneapolis	Snow	Cloudy	Sunny Skies
Boise	Cloudy	Cooler Temperature	Snow
Miami	Sunny Skies	Warmer Temperature	Rain
Chicago	Rain	Warmer Temperature	Sunny Skies
Seattle	Sunny Skies	Rain	Warmer Temperature

Be the Meteorologist

Tracking the Weather

- Watch the weather report on the news daily for one week.
- On a blank map, label the symbols for High and Low pressure, fronts, and precipitation. You will need one map dated and labeled for each day of the week.
- After one week, analyze the maps in chronological order to see the impact that fronts have on the actual weather conditions.

Use these maps to track the weather in the coming days. Print more or trace on paper as needed.

