

**Project FOCUS
Best Lessons
FIRST GRADE**

Title of Lesson: Understanding Thermometers

Theme: Earth/Space Science

Unit Number: 1 **Unit Title:** Weather and the Seasons

Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter codes):

S1CS1

S1CS2

S1CS3

S1CS7

S1E1

S1E2

Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):

Habits of Mind

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

Content (key terms and topics covered):

Weather, Temperature, Thermometer

Learning Activity (Description in Steps)

Abstract (limit 100 characters): This will help students how to read a thermometer and relate the readings to different temperatures.

Details: Separate the students into groups of 4-6. With each group give each student 3 thermometers. Have them explain what a thermometer tells us and what they think will have the highest / lowest reading between the 3 scenarios. Have each student put one thermometer in the bowl of ice, one under the lamp, and one sitting on a desk at air temperature. Show the students how to read the thermometer. Have them record the temperature of each on the paper (pre-marked with a scale) and see if their predictions matched their results.

Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):

3 Thermometers

Lamp

Bowl

Ice

Whiteboard or Paper for Recording

Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):

Inform the students that some thermometers contain mercury (a toxic substance). Also tell them to be careful with the thermometers because they can easily break. After doing this lesson I think it might go smoother if each group had three thermometers instead of each student. This will prevent students from arguing over thermometers and make it easier for them to observe the reading.

Sources/References:

- 1) www.discoverycube.org**
- 2) Georgia Performance Standards**
- 3)**