25SCHOOLS
FREE LEARNING NOTES FOR ZAMBIA

GRADE 1 · TERM 2

Science

Weather and Climate Change

Lesson notes for learners · Competence-Based Curriculum

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Have you ever looked outside and seen sunshine, rain, clouds or wind. That is the weather. In this note you will learn how to watch the weather, how to dress and stay safe in it, and how we can look after our surroundings when the weather changes too much.

AFTER THESE NOTES YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO

- Say what the weather is today and draw a symbol for it
- Say which times of the year are hot, wet or cold
- Choose the right clothes for the weather
- Say what floods and droughts do to people
- Plant and care for a tree

KEY WORDS

Weather	What it is like outside today, such as sunny, rainy, cloudy or windy.
Flood	Too much water that covers the land and houses.
Drought	A long time with no rain, so the land becomes very dry.
Climate change	Weather that changes a lot over many years, with more floods, droughts and heat.

1 Watching the weather

Go outside and look at the sky. Is it sunny. Is it cloudy. Is it raining or windy. We draw a symbol to show the weather, such as a sun, a cloud or raindrops.

Look at the weather every day for one week. Draw it on a class weather calendar. At the end of the week, talk about how the weather changed.

In Zambia there are times of the year that are mostly hot, mostly wet and mostly cold. People do different things at each time. How do you feel on a sunny day. How do you feel on a cold day.

Weather	What we can wear
Sunny and hot	Hat and light clothes
Rainy	Raincoat or umbrella and boots
Cold	Jacket
Windy	Jacket or warm clothes

Figure 1. Weather and how we dress

2 Dressing and staying safe

We choose clothes to match the weather. On a hot day we wear a hat. On a rainy day we use a raincoat or an umbrella. On a cold day we wear a jacket. Tell a friend why your choice is a good one.

Sometimes people hear that the weather will be very bad. There may be heavy floods. There may be thunder storms with lightning. There may be very hot days. A family must listen and protect itself. What would you tell your family to do.

3 When weather changes too much

Sometimes the weather changes in a big way. Floods can cover land. Droughts can dry up the land. Very hot days can start bush fires. This is called climate change. It can hurt people, homes and crops.

You can see a flood in a box. Put soil and small houses in a plastic box. Pour water in slowly. The water rises and covers the houses. Real floods damage buildings and crops.

We can help. We can plant trees and grass. This is called greening. We do not cut down trees. We water the young trees, put mulch around them and keep them safe. Some learners adopt a tree. They give it a name and measure how tall it grows. Trees give shade and a home for insects and animals.

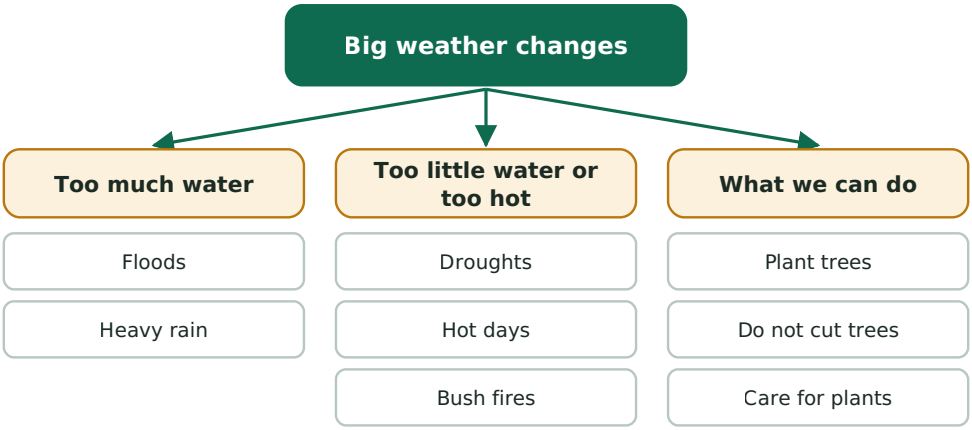

Figure 2. When weather changes too much

TRY THIS

Look at the weather every day for one week. Draw a symbol for each day. Then choose one tree near your home. Give it a name, look at it every week and tell your teacher what you see.

REMEMBER

- Weather is what it is like outside today
- We draw symbols and keep a weather calendar
- We dress to match the weather and listen to warnings
- Floods and droughts can hurt people and crops
- Planting and caring for trees helps our surroundings

? Check yourself

1. Name three kinds of weather.
2. What can you wear on a rainy day.
3. What is a flood.
4. Name one thing we can do to help when the weather changes too much.

5. It is a very hot day in the village. Your little brother wants to play outside in the sun with no hat. (a) What kind of weather is it. (b) What can he wear to protect himself. (c) What would you tell him.
6. A radio says there will be heavy floods in your area in the coming months. Your mother asks what the family should do. (a) What will happen to the land. (b) Give one thing you can tell your family. (c) Why can floods hurt farmers.

ANSWERS

1. Any three of: sunny, cloudy, rainy, windy, hot, cold.
2. A raincoat or an umbrella, and boots.
3. Too much water that covers the land and houses.
4. Plant trees, care for them, or not cut down trees.
5. (a) Hot and sunny. (b) A hat and light clothes. (c) Wear a hat when you play in the sun.
6. (a) Water will cover it. (b) Listen to the warning and get ready to protect the family. (c) They damage buildings and crops.

Written by 25Schools to follow the Grade 1 Science syllabus of the Zambian competence-based curriculum. Free for learners to read, download and share. More notes and quizzes at 25schools.com.