

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM
PRE-VISIT MATERIALS
Grades K-2

**UMBRELLAS OR SNOWSHOES:
The Weather Around Us**

TO THE TEACHER:

The pre-visit packet contains: lesson background, curriculum standards, and terms and definitions.

During the NatureSpace presentation, a science educator will guide participants through hands-on activities designed to help participants:

- Understand the water cycle
- Identify clouds based on shape and location in the sky
- Learn proper use and handling of thermometers

GRADE:	K-2
LENGTH OF LESSON:	60 minutes
CLASS SIZE:	30 students max.

How is rain made? Will it snow today? How hot is it outside? Are all clouds the same? What do all these things have to do with the weather?

Weather is the condition of the atmosphere at any given time. It changes constantly and consists of many things, such as precipitation, temperature, storms, etc. Meteorologists are scientists who make observations of the changing weather in an effort to forecast what will happen next.

Science Curriculum by Grade according to South Carolina State Standards	
Kindergarten	K-1.1; K-1.2; K-1.3; K-1.4; K-1.5; K-4.1; K-4.2; K-4.3
1st grade	1-1.2; 1-1.3; 1-1.4
2nd grade	2-1.1; 2-1.2; 2-1.3; 2-1.4; 2-1.5; 2-3.2; 2-3.6

TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

1. **atmosphere** – The gaseous mass that surrounds any star or planet
2. **Celsius** – A temperature scale used in the metric system.
3. **clouds** – Masses of visible water vapors or ice crystals suspended in the atmosphere.
4. **condensation** – The process of water vapor becoming a liquid.
5. **degree** – The unit used to measure temperature.
6. **evaporation** – The process of a liquid changing to a gas or vapors.
7. **precipitation** – Any form of water (rain, snow, etc.) that falls from the atmosphere and reaches the ground
8. **temperature** – The measure of the amount of heat absorbed.
9. **thermometer** – An instrument used to measure temperature.
10. **weather** – Conditions of the atmosphere at any given time or in any place.