Weather Vocabulary

Table Top Twitter

Table top twitter is a quiet activity. There is no talking allowed during the activity. Students are split into groups of 3 and are given a set of 3 vocabulary terms (one each, if an advanced or higher level class you could assign two per student) and a large piece of bulletin board or poster paper. Every student in the group receives a different color of pencil/pen. A timer is set for five minutes and students are expected to write their word/term on the paper followed by a definition. The definition can be in words or pictures. After the initial definitions are written, time is reset for ten minutes, during this time the students can write comments or opinions next to the vocabulary terms. They can also respond to each other on the paper, as long as they are on topic. The teacher can roam around the room making comments and writing opinions as well. After ten minutes are up, students are to rotate clockwise around the room to the next group’s paper to write comments and opinions to the other vocabulary terms as well. This rotation can last until all teams have had a chance to make comments on all of the vocabulary words.

**List of vocabulary terms**: (*the following are examples of vocabulary you might use, remember to scale up or down the vocabulary you use depending upon your students grade level and abilities*)

Lightening ground based lightening thunderstorm

Thunder Solar weather fire weather

Satellite tropical cyclone tornado

Hurricane severe weather precipitation

Hail rain sleet

Snow microburst supercell

Updraft downdraft cirrus cloud

Cumulus clouds cumulonimbus clouds stratus clouds

**Accommodations or Extensions**: Teacher may decide to let students use their technology, weather books, weather field guides, or text books to look up definitions they are not familiar with. Teacher could use this activity as an intro or a formative assessment for other science terms and concepts.