Lesson Procedures

1. Introduce the lesson by asking the class, "Who has traveled outside the state? What time of year were you in that state? What was the weather like during your visit?" Have a brief discussion about the different places and the weather.
2. Read the story *What's the Weather* written by Melissa Stewart. Before reading, tell students to listen for the different weather patterns. Say to them, "As we read the story, pay close attention to how the location of the state impacts the weather. See if you can find a relationship." After reading, ask students to share their responses to this question.
3. Open Google Earth and turn on the Weather layer in the side panel. Zoom into your city/town and have students use the information and observation to complete the worksheet: *What's the Weather Like in my Backyard?*
4. After discussing the completed worksheet, explain that they are going to be chief meteorologists and that it will be their job to report the weather forecast for a specific state on the nightly news. Explain that they are going to use Google Earth to gather data and when presenting their weather report. Show one or two television forecasts to give an idea of a weather forecast.
5. Explain the requirements of the weather report, as well as how the students will be assessed. Refer to the directions included on the handout: *Weather Report Directions.*
6. Go over a basic Google Earth tutorial with the entire class in the computer lab.
7. Provide assistance in the computer lab.
8. Have students present their weather reports to the entire class.
9. While listening to the presentations, students are to add weather data to a map of the United States to show the connection between the location of a place and its weather.
10. Close the lesson with a classroom discussion that emphasizes the relationship between the location of a place and its weather.

Assessment

Students' completed *Meteorologists' Notebook* worksheet, weather report script, and weather reports will be used to assess fulfillment of the lesson's objectives.

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