



# TEACHER'S NOTES

WHAT'S THE WEATHER?

## OVERVIEW

Aimed at **key stage 2** (9-11 years)

(Prep time 10 mins/Class time 50 mins)

Learners work in pairs to record the temperatures from a set of thermometers representing different months of the year and draw a bar chart of their findings. They then watch a video about a boy who has a genetic condition which is affected by temperature, before working in small groups to collect real-time data about the temperature in different tourist destinations around the world. Creating their own weather map, they suggest appropriate locations for the boy to visit.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- To collaborate effectively in both pairs and small groups
- To accurately collect and record scientific data
- To plot data in a bar chart and draw comparisons between different measurements
- To use the internet to find and collect real-time data for a specific purpose

## CURRICULUM LINKS

- Scientific and technological understanding: make and record accurate measurements and detailed observations, presenting them appropriately, and analyse, interpret and apply them
- Historical, geographical and social understanding: where significant places are located in the UK, Europe and the wider world
- Understanding physical development, health and wellbeing: work independently and in groups, taking on different roles and collaborating towards common goals

## you will NEED

- A copy of the **How hot is it?** worksheet for each pair
- A copy of the **Make your own holiday weather map** worksheet for each group
- Pens and pencils
- Internet access

## Activity

- Start by exploring basic concepts of weather and temperature with the whole class. Ask what the weather is like today. Is it hot or cold? How do they know? How can we measure how hot or cold it is? Is it the same temperature every day? At what times of year is it hottest or coldest?
- Explain that you used a thermometer to collect information about the temperature on one day each month last year. You have pictures of the thermometers and need the class to find out how hot or cold it was on each day. Arrange the class in pairs and hand out the **How hot is it?** worksheet to each. Learners should work together to record the temperature each month and plot their data in a bar chart. They need to name their axes and give the chart a title. They also need to decide how to treat any minus temperatures (you could suggest they plot the bars below the zero line if they are struggling). When the whole class has finished, ask them to feedback: which month was the hottest? Which was the coldest?
- Explain that you want the class to watch a film about a boy called Tamilore, who is particularly affected by the cold. As they watch, ask learners to pay attention to what things can make Tamilore ill. Watch Tamilore's video story at:

<http://www.genesareus.org/filmlibrary/tamiloresstory>



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**WHAT'S THE WEATHER?**

## Activity

continued

- ✦ Suggest that Tamilore and his family need some help planning their holiday. They have a few ideas, but they need to make sure wherever they travel to will be warm enough for Tamilore. Ideally, it should not be any colder than your town in early summer.
- ✦ Arrange the class into small groups and hand out the **Make a holiday weather map worksheet**. Learners should use the BBC website to look up the weather forecast for each possible holiday destination and create a weather map showing the forecast temperatures. They can also decorate the map with symbols showing the likely weather.
- ✦ Finally, ask the groups to compare their findings with the bar charts they made earlier. Which locations are forecast to be warmer than your town in early summer? Where could Tamilore and his family go on holiday?

## EXTENSION

- ✦ Run a project to compare the BBC weather forecast with the actual weather. Set up a weather station in the school playground and collect measurements of temperature, pressure and rain every day. Plot this on a graph alongside the BBC forecast and compare the results.

## FURTHER information

- ✦ The Met Office have useful guides to building your own weather station:  
[http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/education/kids/weather\\_station.html](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/education/kids/weather_station.html)
- ✦ The Weather Forecast resource on this page could be used to create and display your own forecast on a whiteboard:  
<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks1science.html>

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# HOW HOT IS IT?

PUPIL WORKSHEET

These thermometers show the temperature in your town on one day each month last year. Can you read the temperatures and make a bar chart that shows how temperature changes throughout the year?

## COLLECT YOUR DATA

Read the thermometers and fill in the blanks to collect the temperature recorded on one day each month.

**JANUARY**

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

**FEBRUARY**

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

**MARCH**

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

**APRIL**

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAY**

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

**JUNE**

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

**JULY**

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

**AUGUST**

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

**SEPTEMBER**

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

**OCTOBER**

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOVEMBER**

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_

**DECEMBER**

Temperature: \_\_\_\_\_





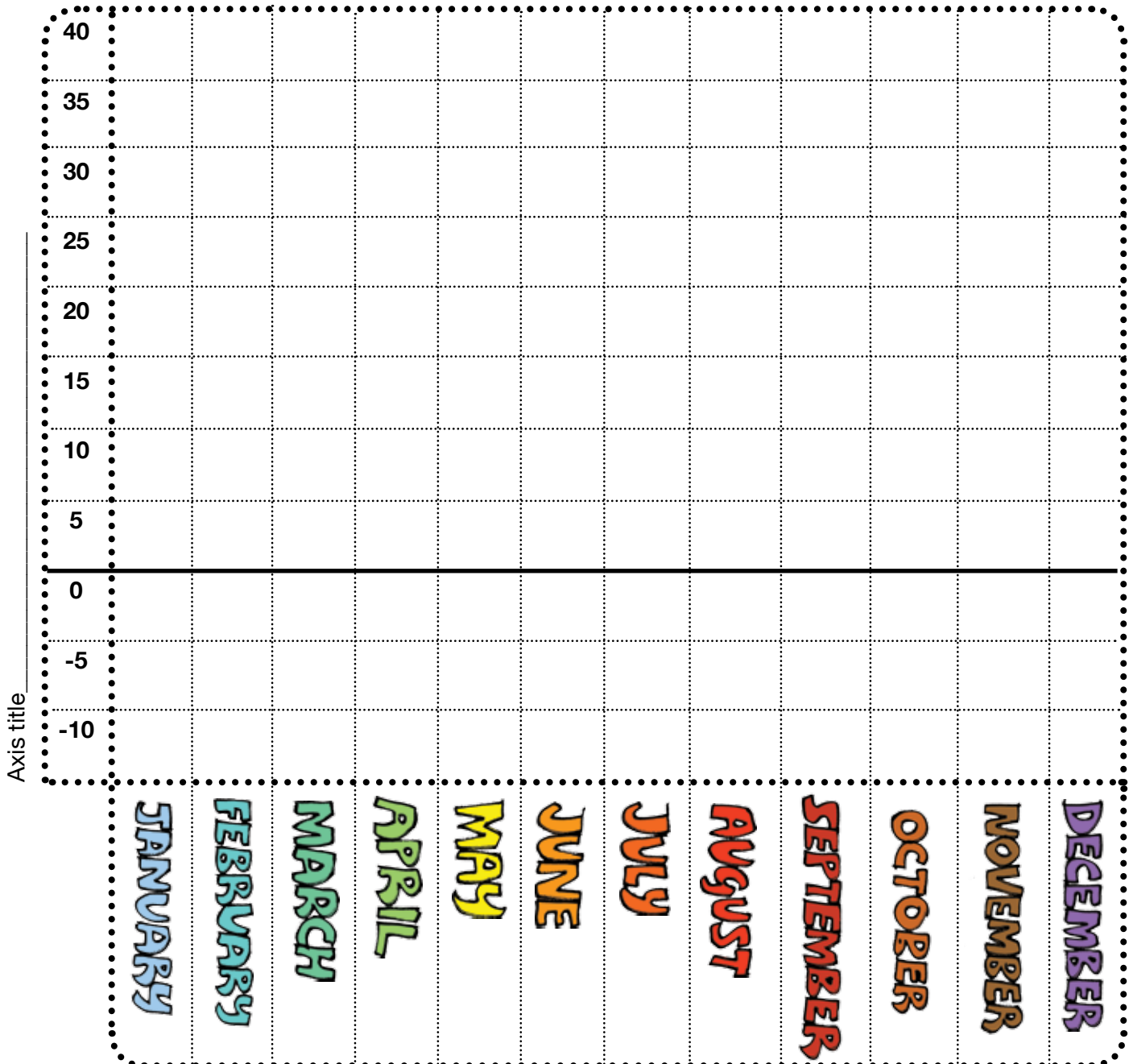
# HOW HOT IS IT?

## PLOT YOUR DATA

Use the data you have collected to create a bar chart.

- ★ Don't forget to name the axes, and give your chart a title.
- ★ How will you show negative readings?

Chart title \_\_\_\_\_



## COMPARE YOUR DATA

Which is the hottest month? \_\_\_\_\_

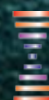
Which is the coldest month? \_\_\_\_\_

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# HOLIDAY WEATHER MAP

Visit the BBC weather website (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/weather/>) and look up today's weather forecast for each of these tourist destinations. Mark each forecasted maximum temperature at the correct location on the map.

- Anne Frank's House (Amsterdam)
- The Arctic Circle (Tromsø)
- The Coliseum (Rome)
- The Danube (Budapest)
- Disneyland Paris (Paris)
- Loch Ness (Inverness)
- The Matterhorn (Zermatt)
- The Nou Camp football ground (Barcelona)
- The Parthenon (Athens)
- Shakespeare's Birthplace (Stratford-upon-Avon)

You can also draw symbols to show what the weather will be like (for instance a yellow sun or a grey cloud).



Compare the forecast temperatures with those you plotted earlier.

- Which places are expected to be the warmest? \_\_\_\_\_
- Which places are expected to be the coldest? \_\_\_\_\_
- Where could Tamillore visit if he wants to stay warm? \_\_\_\_\_

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