

Title:	Protect Yourself!
Performance Expectations:	Ask questions to obtain information about the purpose of weather forecasting to prepare for, and respond to, severe weather.
Clarification Statement:	Emphasis is on local forms of severe weather.
Time:	One hour
Resources:	computers with Internet connection, notecards, Weather Pics (appendix)
Gathering Information:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With a partner, have students brainstorm a list of severe weather they have experienced in your local area. 2. As a class, make a list of the items the small groups thought of. 3. Lead a discussion about what they should do when weather threatens your area. 4. Take a virtual field trip. Find a website that offers suggestions on weather safety (wxdude.com is the site for Nick Walker, the Weather Dude, or http://www.exploringweather.com/ , http://www.weatherwizkids.com/ , http://urbanext.illinois.edu/treehouse_sp/index.cfm). 5. Have the students think of questions you can search for on the website. Questions should focus on the purpose of weather forecasting to prepare for and respond to severe weather. 6. Make a list of weather safety suggestions as you find them.
Reasoning:	<p>Construct explanation from evidence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Print pictures of different weather events (use Weather Pics provided in the appendix or find your own pictures). 2. Divide your class into as many groups as you have pictures. 3. Give each group a picture and have the group talk about how to prepare for and respond to the weather in the picture. 4. Have the groups meet with other groups to share their ideas. 5. Repeat these meeting as many times as you wish.

Communicating:	Have each student choose one example of severe weather and create a safety poster showing how we should prepare and respond to it.
Science & Engineering Practices:	Asking Questions and Defining Problems Planning and Carrying Out Investigations Analyzing and Interpreting Data Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information
Disciplinary Core Ideas:	Natural Hazards
Cross Cutting Concepts:	Interdependence of Science, Engineering, and Technology