Wisconsin State Climatology Office
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Youth Weather & Climate Workshops: 2026-2027

To request a workshop or for more information, email the State Climatology Office (stclim@aos.wisc.edu) or outreach specialist, Amanda Latham (amanda.latham@wisc.edu)

Workshop Title: Up in the Clouds

Description: Weather is for everyone! Young students will gain an understanding of the difference between weather and climate, learn about how different types of clouds form, and even watch one be created inside. They'll also learn what dangerous storm clouds to look out for and how to stay safe during severe weather.

Grades: K-3

Max Attendance: 25

Time Allotted: 45-60 minutes

Learning Standards: *K-ESS2-1, K-ESS3-2*

Workshop Title: Weather Works

Description: Wisconsin has one of the most variable climates in the country, experiencing extreme heat, blizzards, and tornadoes. In this workshop, students will learn the foundations of everyday weather, from making clouds to simulating warm and cold fronts, learning how these processes can escalate into wild weather situations.

Grades: 4-8

Max Attendance: 25

Time Allotted: 60 minutes

Learning Standards: *MS-ESS2-5*

Workshop Title: Toying with Twisters

Description: Wisconsin typically experiences 23 tornadoes every year, much fewer than some other Midwest states. Students will explore factors that influence why certain regions have more tornadoes than others and create a model to visualize what happens during a tornado.

Grades: 6-12

Max Attendance: 25

Time Allotted: 60 minutes

Learning Standards: *MS-ESS2-5 & MS-ESS2-6, HS-ESS2-4*

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Workshop Title: Climate Connections

Description: Wisconsin's climate is closely linked to the health of its ecosystems. Students will explore how different Wisconsin species are impacted by weather and climate changes through an interactive board game. Students will gain insights into how the state's climate has shifted in recent years and how they can help protect the state's native species. This game also incorporates Traditional Ecological Knowledge of the Lake Superior Ojibwe people, exposing students to Ojibwe culture and language.

Grades: 4-8

Max Attendance: 25

Time Allotted: 45-60 minutes

Learning Standards: *4-ESS3-2, 5-ESS3-1, MS-LS2-1 & 2, MS-ESS3-5*