

INQUIRY FOCUS

Interpret Data.....

Draw Conclusions

Materials

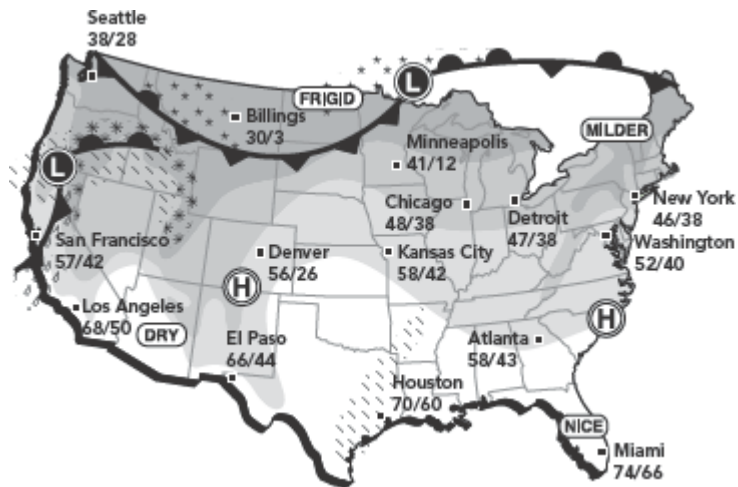
weather map
chart with symbols
on previous page
pencil

Reading a Weather Map

Problem

How does the information on a weather map communicate data?

Procedure



1. Examine the symbols on the weather map. For more information about the symbols used on the map, refer to the chart on the previous page.
2. Observe the different shadings on the weather map.
3. Find the symbols for rain and snow.
4. Locate the warm fronts and cold fronts.
5. Locate the symbols for high and low pressure.

DIRECTED Inquiry**Lab Investigation****READING A**
WEATHER MAP *continued*

6. After carefully studying the map, fill in the table below by drawing the appropriate symbols in the column on the right.

Weather Map Symbols	
Map symbols that show precipitation	
Map symbols that show wind or pressure	
Map symbols that show temperature	
Map symbols that show fronts	

DIRECTED Inquiry

READING A
WEATHER MAP *continued*

- 1 **Interpret Data** Describe the shading that represents the highest temperature on the map. Describe the shading that represents the lowest temperature.

- 2 **Draw Conclusions** What season does this map represent? How do you know?

- 3 **Observe** Which city has the highest temperature? Which city has the lowest temperature?

- 4 **Calculate** What is the average temperature in the northern half of the United States, based on the cities that are positioned in the areas of the map that are shaded with the darkest gray?

- 5 **Predict** The triangles and semicircles on the front lines show which way the front is moving toward Minneapolis. What kind of weather do you think it will bring?

- 6 **Infer** What area might be experiencing high winds?

POST LAB

Reading A Weather Map

- 1 Draw Conclusions** Which types of information do weather maps show well?

- 2 Classify** Which types of weather information would not be best communicated by a weather map?

- 3 Evaluate Scientific Claims** Defend or refute this statement: Weather maps are the best tools for warning communities about approaching tornadoes.

- 4 Infer** Why are weather maps useful to people who are not meteorologists?

- 5 Summarize** Describe what you learned in this lab about reading and interpreting weather map data and what questions you still have.

What I learned

What I still want to know

Communicate

Evaluate Science in the Media Compare the weather map in this lab to one shown on a television news report. Which symbols on the maps are similar? What symbols on the maps are different?

PREDICTING THE WEATHER

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