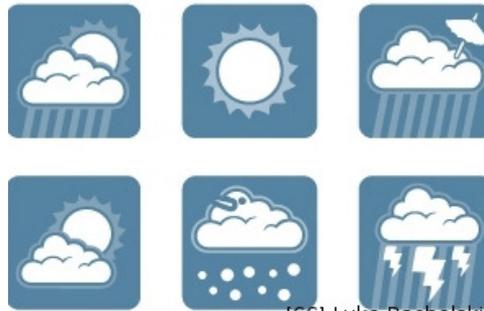


1:1 netbook scenario, N°10

My weather forecast



Subjects: foreign language, environmental education

Level: Primary and secondary school

Time: +/- 90 minutes

- 5 minutes for introduction phase
- 5 minutes brainstorming phase
- 20 minutes for comparing mind maps, discussion
- 15 minutes for checking the weather forecast of different cities
- 20 minutes for preparing a presentation on their weather forecast
- 25 minutes for presenting their weather forecast
- Homework phase

Description:

In this lesson on weather students get an opportunity to do research work, collect and gather information, create a weather forecast, create a presentation, and make predictions. Students will learn vocabulary about weather and clothes and use of future tenses. With the help of the science teacher, students might work also on the scientific aspects of temperature, humidity, wind and precipitation.

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Tools

Netbooks

- Students connect to the Internet to do online research
- Using netbooks and projector for presenting students' work

Other

- Projector
- Mind mapping tool (e.g. bubbl.us) and presentation tool (e.g. Prezi) and a site where they can publish their presentations (e.g. Edmodo)

Lesson preparation

- Visit the websites included in the Links section
- Get familiar with the tools you select to use (e.g. Prezi)
- Revise the use of future tenses with the students.

Process

1. Introduction at classroom

Offline | Full class | Tools: notebook, projector

The teacher presents the activity to the class. If necessary the teacher reminds about the use of future tenses.

2. Brainstorming and mind mapping

Online | Group work | Tools: netbooks, projector, bubbl.us site

Working in groups of three, the students think of all the words they know about the weather and they create their mind map at www.bubbl.us. Alternatively they can use a Word document to write down the words.

The students publish their mind maps in the class blog/wiki/website. Bubbl provides a code to embed mind maps easily. If the class does not have a blog or wiki, the teacher can set up a presentation site at Edmodo (<http://www.edmodo.com>).

3. Comparing mind maps and discussion

Online | Full class | Tools: netbooks, projector, class blog with students' mind maps

The students compare their mind maps with the ones created by the other groups. They also discuss the importance of weather forecasts: they describe situations when they are essential or just useful. They should refer to their personal experiences.

4. Weather forecast online and presentation

Online | Individual work/Group work | Tools: netbooks with Internet access, presentation software

Now students can continue working in groups or individually. Students go to www.weather.com, choose a city and check the weather forecast for the next five days. They take notes.

Alternatively, students can see a weather forecast in a paper e.g.
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/> or watch a video about it i.e.
<http://www.weather.com/outlook/videos/todays-top-forecast-4276>.

Students create weather forecasts using their notes and prepare presentations (using a presentation tool, e.g. Prezi). The students are asked to illustrate their forecasts as if they were on TV. They should incorporate the proper words into their speech, that is, accuracy with vocabulary is essential.

5. Homework (optional)

Online | Individual work| Tools: netbooks, a class blog/wiki/forum

Students are expected to plan a trip to the city they have chosen in the aforementioned task. They write a mail to a friend inviting him/her to join them. They mention what the weather will be like and they give suggestions about what clothes to bring with them.

Links

- bubbl.us (free web application for brainstorming online): <http://www.bubbl.us/>
- Edmodo (Free Private Microblogging For Education): <http://www.edmodo.com>
- Edmodo tutorial: <http://www.schooltube.com/video/614a99ab528ea77f51a7/Edmodo-Tutorial>
- weather.com: www.weather.com
- MindMeister (Online Mind Mapping): <http://www.mindmeister.com/>
- Prezi (presentation editor): <http://prezi.com/>
- Sample presentation (by Prezi software): <http://prezi.com/fwlildc8oao2/copy-of-the-weather-forecast/>