Expert Pack: Wild Weather

Submitted by: Washoe County School District, NV

Grade: K-2

Date: May 2015

	Topic/Subject		
	Wild Weather		
	Texts/Resources		
Book(s)			
1.	Extreme Nature: Wild Weather		
2.	Reading Essentials: Wild Weather		
3.	Weather Patterns		
Article(s)		
1.	"After Hurricane Katrina, Read for Relief"		
2.	"Extreme Weather"		
3.	3. "Roy Sullivan Struck by Lightning 7 Times"		
Other N	леdia		
1.	Hurricane [Animation with Text]		
2.	"Storms" [Video]		
3.	Tornadoes [Video with Text]		
"Water Cycle" and "Thunder and Lightning" [Songs]			
5.	Weebly [Interactive Website]		
generally latter sel	pert pack contains a variety of selections grouped to create as coherent and gradual a learning process for students as possible, y beginning with lower levels as measured by quantitative and qualitative measures, and moving to more complex levels in the lections. This gradated approach helps support students' ability to read the next selection and to become 'experts' on the topic reading about.		

Refer to annotated bibliography on the following pages for the suggested sequence of readings.

Rationale and suggested sequence for reading:

The first video, "Storms", introduces students to wild weather in a fun and engaging manner. The next resource, *Wild Weather*, gives students a good amount of knowledge and introduces them into wild weather vocabulary. The songs "Water Cycle" and "Thunder and Lightning" give students common vocabulary to connect with upcoming resources. The next two resources, *Wild Weather* and *Weather Patterns*, build more knowledge and vocabulary for students. Next, the article on Roy Sullivan is a human interest story that takes students out of the textbook-type informational text and will help them make a personal connection to the informational text. The "Weebly" interactive site gives students some hands-on experience with the weather information that they have been reading about. Further, the article "Extreme Weather" brings students back into text and exposes them to a lot of information at a high, challenging level. The video "Tornadoes" and the interactive "Hurricanes" allows students to work with information that they have been reading and experiencing so far in the text set. Finally, the article, "Read for Relief" allows students to read about students who have done something for victims of the weather patterns that they have been reading about.

The Common Core Shifts for ELA/Literacy:

- 1. Regular practice with complex text and its academic language
- 2. Reading, writing and speaking grounded in evidence from text, both literary and informational
- 3. Building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction

Though use of these expert packs will enhance student proficiency with most or all of the Common Core Standards, they focus primarily on Shift 3, and the highlighted portions of the standards below.

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading Literary and/or Informational Texts (the darkened sections of the standards are the focus of the Expert Pack learning for students):

- 1. **Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it;** cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
- 2. Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
- 10. Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently

Annotated Bibliography

and suggested sequence for reading

N/A "Storms"

Author: Unknown

Genre: Informational video

Length: 23:10

Synopsis: Science personality, Bill Nye, teaches about storms in an informative way through the lens of "The Wizard of Oz."

Citation: Nye, Bill. (n.d.). Storms [Video file] Retrieved April 19, 2015, from

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h7US1JSqsPg

Cost/Access: \$0.00 YouTube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h7US1JSqsPg

Recommended Student Activities: Wonderings

500L Wild Weather

Author: Ben Smith

Genre: Informational

Length: 24 pages

Synopsis: Graphics and photos illustrate the weather during a thunderstorm, hurricane, and tornado. Also presents the causes of thunderstorms, hurricanes, and tornadoes.

Citation: Smith, Ben (2006). Wild Weather. Logan, IA: Perfection Learning.

Cost/Access: \$6.39 for paperback and \$16.95 for library binding

Recommended Student Activities: Quiz Maker

N/A "Water Cycle" and "Thunder and Lightning" Songs

Author: Meish Goldish (Water Cycle), unknown (Thunder and Lightning)

Genre: Poetry, music

Length: 67 words (Water Cycle), 86 words (Thunder and Lightning)

Synopsis: Two songs to the tunes of familiar songs, present information on the water cycle and thunder and lightning.

Citation: *Can Teach*. (n.d.). Retrieved April 19, 2015, from <u>http://www.canteach.ca/elementary/songspoems17.html</u>

Cost/Access: \$0.00 http://www.canteach.ca/elementary/songspoems17.html

Recommended Student Activities: A Picture of Knowledge

680L Wild Weather

Author: Anita Ganeri

Genre: Informational

Length: 32 pages

Synopsis: This book gives students examples of extreme weather. It looks at what happens with lightning, tornadoes, and hurricanes.

Citation: Ganeri, Anita. (2013). Wild Weather. Chicago, IL: Raintree.

Cost/Access: \$6.83 for paperback and \$29.32 for library binding

Recommended Student Activities: "What am I" quiz included with text on pages 28-29.

725L Weather Patterns

Author: Monica Hughes

Genre: Informational

Length: 32 pages

Synopsis: This book helps students understand various natural phenomena and weather patterns the world over. Using many examples, the book looks at patterns and cycles in nature.

Citation: Hughes, Monica. (2004). Weather Patterns. Chicago, IL: Heinemann Library.

Cost/Access: \$7.99 and \$26.00 for library binding

Recommended Student Activities: A Picture of Knowledge Step 5 on Checklist for Creating an Expert Pack

980L "Roy Sullivan Struck by Lightning 7 Times"

Author: unknown

Genre: Internet article, human interest

Length: 698 words

Synopsis: Human interest story about Roy Sullivan, a National Park worker, who was hit by lightning 7 times. It is suggested teachers do not show the last paragraph about how he died.

Citation: *Roy Sullivan Struck by Lightning 7 Times*. (2012, October). Retrieved February 26, 2015, from http://www.weatherimagery.com/blog/roy-sullivan-struck-by-lightning-7-times/

Cost/Access: \$0.00 http://www.weatherimagery.com/blog/roy-sullivan-struck-by-lightning-7-times/

Recommended Student Activities: Wonderings

N/A "Weebly Interactive Learning Site"

Author: N/A

Genre: Interactive learning website

Length: N/A

Synopsis: This website will take students through different games and interactive games to learn more about different weather patterns.

Citation: Weebly Science, Seasons and Weather. (n.d.). Retrieved February 26, 2015, from www.interactivesites.weebly.com

Cost/Access: \$0.00 <u>www.interactivesites.weebly.com</u> When on the website, click on the "Science" tab in the middle of the screen. Then click on "Seasons and Weather".

Recommended Student Activities: Activity-based website.

1100L "Extreme Weather"

Author: Peter Miller

Genre: Informational

Length: 3646 words

Synopsis: This internet article teaches students about extreme weather and happenings across the U.S.

Citation: Extreme Weather. (Sept. 2012). Retrieved February 26, 2015, from http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2012/09/extreme-weather/miller-text

Cost/Access: \$0.00 http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2012/09/extreme-weather/miller-text

Recommended Student Activities: Quiz Maker

N/A "Tornadoes"

Author: N/A

Genre: Informational video with text

Length: N/A

Synopsis: This video has text to help students explore the 1 mile-wide EF5 tornado that moved through Tuscaloosa, Alabama on April 27th, 2011.

Citation: Tornadoes. (n.d.). Retrieved February 26, 2015, from http://www.exploringweather.com/tornadoes.html

Cost/Access: \$0.00 <u>http://www.exploringweather.com/tornadoes.html</u> This link will take you directly to the "Tornadoes" section of the website. This activity is meant to focus on tornadoes, though there are other sections on extreme weather.

Recommended Student Activities: A Picture of Knowledge

N/A "Hurricane"

Author: N/A

Genre: Animation with text

Length: N/A

Synopsis: This animation takes students through a hurricane. Text is provided.

Citation: Hurricane. (n.d.). Retrieved February 26, 2015, from www.cbsnews.com/htdocs/natural_disasters/hurricanes/hurricanes101.swf

Cost/Access: \$0.00 www.cbsnews.com/htdocs/natural_disasters/hurricanes/hurricanes101.swf

Recommended Student Activities: Pop Quiz

910L "After Hurricane Katrina, Read for Relief"

Author: Rachel Laskow

Genre: Informational internet article

Length: 490 words

Synopsis: Students across the country use books to help hurricane victims.

Citation: Read for Relief. (n.d.). Retrieved February 26, 2015, from http://teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews/indepth/hurricanekatrina/articles/index.asp?article=read&topi c=1

Cost/Access: \$0.00

http://teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews/indepth/hurricanekatrina/articles/index.asp?article=read&topi c=1

Recommended Student Activities: Wonderings

Supports for Struggling Students

By design, the **gradation of complexity** within each Expert Pack is a technique that provides struggling readers the opportunity to read more complex texts. Listed below are other measures of support that can be used when necessary.

- Provide a brief **student-friendly glossary** of some of the academic vocabulary (tier 2) and domain vocabulary (tier 3) essential to understanding the text
- Download the Wordsmyth widget to classroom computers/tablets for students to access studentfriendly definitions for unknown words. <u>http://www.wordsmyth.net/?mode=widget</u>
- Provide brief student friendly explanations of necessary background knowledge
- Include pictures or videos related to the topic within and in addition to the set of resources in the pack
- Select a small number of texts to **read aloud** with some discussion about vocabulary work and background knowledge
- Provide audio recordings of the texts being read by a strong reader (teacher, parent, etc.)
- **Chunk the text** and provide brief questions for each chunk of text to be answered *before* students go on to the next chunk of text
- Pre-reading activities that focus on the structure and graphic elements of the text
- Provide volunteer helpers from the school community during independent reading time.

Text Complexity Guide

"Read for Relief", by Rachel Laskow

1. Quantitative Measure

Go to <u>http://www.lexile.com/</u> and enter the title of the text in the Quick Book Search in the upper right of home page. Most texts will have a Lexile measure in this database. You can also copy and paste a selection of text using the Lexile analyzer.

910L	2-3 band 4-5 band 6-8 band 9 -10 band 11 – CCR	420 -820L 740 -1010L 925 - 1185L 1050 – 1335L 1185 - 1385
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2. Qualitative Features

Consider the four dimensions of text complexity below. For each dimension*, note specific examples from the text that make it more or less complex.

The purpose of this article is to introduce students to the concept of helping out in a weather crisis. As a culminating piece, this article will give students something to think about and possibly encourage them to help when there is a need. Additionally, this article is meant to give students a firsthand experience of how weather can affect people. Meaning/Purpose	The structure takes the reader through three different scenarios of students across the country helping out by collecting books after Hurricane Katrina. Photographs and captions support the text.
Language The text is short and the sentences are fairly simple. The descriptions are broken up by quotations from the students involved with the collection of books. This is a very readable and enjoyable text for students.	Knowledge Demands Knowledge and facts of Hurricane Katrina and the severity of the damage are needed.

3. Reader and Task Considerations

What will challenge students most in this text? What supports can be provided?

- Students could struggle with not having enough background knowledge about Hurricane Katrina. It may be beneficial to provide a brief student-friendly explanation of Hurricane Katrina.
- Pictures or video of Hurricane Katrina would provide knowledge for students while reading this article.
- Pre-reading that focuses on quotations and drawing their attention to the photographs could help students.

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Submitted by: Washoe County School District, NV Grade: K-2 Date: May 2015

Learning Worth Remembering

<u>Cumulative Activities</u> – The following activities should be completed and updated after reading each resource in the set. The purpose of these activities is to capture knowledge building from one resource to the next, and to provide a holistic snapshot of central ideas of the content covered in the expert pack. *It is recommended that students are required to complete one of the Cumulative Activities (Rolling Knowledge Journal or Rolling Vocabulary) for this Expert Pack.*

1. Rolling Knowledge Journal

- 1. Read each selection in the set, one at a time.
- 2. After you read *each* resource, stop and think what the big learning was. What did you learn that was new *and important* about the topic from *this* resource? Write, draw, or list what you learned from the text about (topic).
- 3. Then write, draw, or list how this new resource added to what you learned from the last resource(s).

Sample Student Response

Title		Write, Draw, or List		
		New and important learning about the topic	How does this resource add to what I learned already?	
1.	"Storms"	General overview of extreme storms with Bill Nye. Information on weather and storms in particular.		
2.	"Wild Weather" Ben Smith	There are many types of wild weather.	Extreme changes in weather affect our lives in which we also saw in Bill Nye's video.	
3.	"Water Cycle" and "Thunder and Lightning" songs	The Water Cycle, the difference between thunder and lightning. Thunder is heard while lightning is seen.	It helped to solve some wonderings about thunder and lightning and water that weren't shared in the previous texts.	
4.	Wild Weather Anita Ganeri	Book goes more deeply into the extreme weather. For example, we learn more about lightning, tornadoes, and hurricanes.	This book adds to the information previously read about with extreme weather patterns. Tornadoes are an extreme weather that occurs in the Midwest of the United States.	
5.	Weather Patterns	Changes in the earth and sky: Weather changes from day to day and over the seasons.	This brings all the patterns of nature and weather, seasons, together. We can see how nature and the seasons affect the weather.	
6.	"Roy Sullivan Struck by Lightning 7 Times"	This is a human interest story about Roy Sullivan, a man who was struck by lightning 7 times and lived to tell about	Relates back to Wild Weather by Anita Ganeri. Roy was introduced briefly in Wild Weather. This article tells us more about	

		it.	him.
7.	"Weebly Interactive Learning Site"	Hands-on experiences with different weather patterns such as tornadoes and hurricanes. Interactive games to learn more about weather.	The games teach more about the weather patterns that we have been reading about. There are a lot to choose from and we can even be a weather person.
8.	"Extreme Weather"	A very visual first person account of an extreme storm. Real life account.	This article takes one person's experience with a huge rainstorm in Nashville Tennessee.
9.	"Tornadoes"	Tornadoes can be extremely damaging and this one that moved through Tuscaloosa, Alabama in 2011 caused a lot of damage	Our previous learning about tornadoes is brought to life in this video. It shows how much damage one large storm caused in a southern town.
10.	"Hurricane"	Hurricanes in the Atlantic often begin off of the coast of Africa.	This animation explains that hurricanes often start off the coast of Africa then head west. We learn how hurricanes are formed.
11.	"After Hurricane Katrina, Read for Relief"	Students across the country contributed to helping student victims of Hurricane Katrina.	There are examples from across the country of how students helped victims of Hurricane Katrina. One example is that they collected books.

2. Rolling Vocabulary: "Sensational Six"

- Read each resource then determine the 6 words from each text that most exemplify the central idea of the text.
- Next use your 6 words to write about the most important idea of the text. You should have as many sentences as you do words.
- Continue this activity with EACH selection in the Expert Pack.
- After reading all the selections in the Expert Pack, go back and review your words.
- Now select the "Sensational Six" words from ALL the word lists.
- Use the "Sensational Six" words to summarize the most important learning from this Expert Pack.

Title	Six Vocabulary Words & Sentences
"Storms"	Words: twister, extreme, surface, downpour, soak, barometer
	Sentences:
	1. A twister rages across Oklahoma, destroying many houses.
	2. It is an extreme storm that can cause damage if you are caught in one.
	3. The <u>surface</u> of the earth is affected by many storms.
	4. If a downpour occurs, you will need to run for cover to keep from getting wet.
	5. The strong rainstorm can soak your clothes and make you cold.
	6. When the barometer falls, you can expect a storm to come through your town.
Wild Weather	Words: hurricane, tornado, hail, roaring, thunder, eye (of a storm)

	Sentences:
"Extreme Weather"	Words: meteorologist, predicting, forecast, broadcasts, colleagues, flash flood
//-	
	 We spent our summer vacation at Yellowstone <u>National Park</u>. The lightning <u>arced</u> across the sky.
	4. The ranger at the park helped us find the hiking trail.
	3. When the lightning struck the man, it wounded his foot.
	2. When the lightning hit the tree it left a <u>searing</u> mark on the trunk.
	1. A lightning strike can hit a tree branch and break it in half.
	Sentences:
, by Lightning 7 Times"	
"Roy Sullivan Struck	Words: strike, searing, wounded, ranger, National Park, arced
	o. The weatherman can predict the weather using a computer.
	 The <u>climate</u> at the equator is warm and wet. The weatherman can <u>predict</u> the weather using a computer.
	 As you get closer to the <u>equator</u>, the weather gets warmer. The climate at the equator is warm and wet
	3. When there is a lot of moisture, we are in a wet weather pattern .
	2. During the spring season we saw a lot of rain.
	1. A lot of plants grow well in a <u>tropical</u> climate.
	Sentences:
Weather Patterns	Words: tropical, season, pattern, equator, climate, predict
	6. There may be a lack of water to keep cool during a <u>drought</u> .
	5. It is important to keep cool during a <u>heat wave</u> .
	4. When snow melts, there can be floods .
	3. A blizzard can cover an entire town with deep snow.
	 Kansas is a state in <u>Tornado Alley</u>.
	1. A family may need to run into their storm shelter to stay safe from a tornado.
	Sentences:
Anita Ganeri	words. storm shelter, fornado Alley, blizzard, hoods, heat wave, drought
Wild Weather	Words: storm shelter, Tornado Alley, blizzard, floods, heat wave, drought
	6. Then there can be a <u>rumble</u> in the air meaning there is thunder.
	5. Warm air expands the molecules in the air, causing the pressure to drop.
	 Sometimes storms can be so beautiful that we stand in wonder.
	 Storms can be <u>frightening</u> because of high winds, loud noises, and bright flashes of light.
	 When <u>lightning</u> flashes, it is unsafe to be outside. An <u>electric spark</u> flashes with lightning.
Lightning" songs	Sentences:
"Thunder and	
"Water Cycle" and	Words: lightning, electric spark, frightening, wonder, expands, rumble
	6. The eye of a hurricane is calm and quiet.
	 Many extreme storms sound like the <u>roaring</u> of a tiger. The sound of the <u>thunder</u> can keep a family awake at night.
	3. <u>Hail</u> bounces off of the cars in the parking lot.
	2. A tornado is another wild storm that spins and creates a lot of damage.
	 Sentences: A hurricane causes a lot of wind and rain.

Sensational Six	strike, tremendous, hurricane, tornado, lightning, extreme
	It was important for the students to <u>donate</u> their time and belongings to help the victims of the hurricane.
	school every day.
	5. Many of the students in the hurricane were unable to keep the same routine of going to
	4. They also gathered money, called pledges , promised by organizations.
	3. The students figured out what to collect , such as clothes and food.
	the storm.
	2. The <u>victims</u> , children and their families, of the hurricane lost most of their belongings in
	1. Many students <u>participated</u> in gathering items for the kids affected by Hurricane Katrina
Relief"	Sentences:
Katrina, Read for	
"After Hurricane	Words: participated, victims, collect, pledges, routine, donate
	 6. Wild weather can be <u>devastating</u> if it destroys homes and crops.
	 Water vapor <u>condenses</u> and becomes water, which then turns into rain or snow. The water condenses in the atmosphere above the earth.
	3. When the unstable air meets, or converges , storms are created.
	2. <u>Unstable</u> , changing air creates conditions for storms.
	1. Storms can happen in either half, or hemisphere , of the earth.
	Sentences:
"Hurricane"	Words: hemisphere, unstable, converges, condenses, atmosphere, devastating
	6. It can also form a fast, spinning vortex that will pull objects into its center.
	5. There can be a big updraft , or upward movement of air in the tornado.
	4. The winds are rotating , turning in a circle.
	3. The storm can have tremendous , very strong winds.
	ground.
	2. The tornado is a <u>vertical</u> storm, meaning it goes from up and down from the sky to the
	1. A <u>violent</u> storm can be very dangerous.
	Sentences:
"Tornadoes"	Words: violent, vertical, tremendous, rotating, updraft, vortex
	call it a <u>flash flood</u> warning.
	6. Sometimes if a lot of water is running over the banks of the river, the news station will
	5. The reporters work together and are called <u>colleagues</u> .
	4. The news station broadcasts the daily weather report.
	3. He gives us the daily forecast of what our expected weather is.
	2. He uses a computer and satellites to help him with predicting the weather.
	1. A <u>meteorologist</u> is someone on TV who reports the weather.

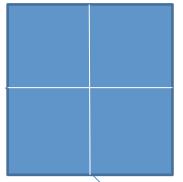
Summary:

Wild storms can **strike** anywhere. An example of a very rainy storm that brings a **tremendous** amount of rain and wind is a **hurricane**. A **tornado** can easily tear a town apart, scattering livestock and houses. It is important to be safe during storms, and **lightning** is no exception. Everyone should seek shelter and stay safe from **extreme** storms.

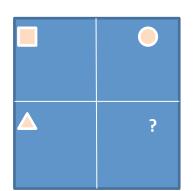
Learning Worth Remembering

<u>Singular Activities</u> – the following activities can be assigned for each resource in the set. The purpose of these activities is to check for understanding, capture knowledge gained, and provide variety of ways for students to interact with each individual resource. Students may complete some or none of the suggested singular activities for each text. Singular activities should be assigned at the discretion of the teacher.

- 1. A Picture of Knowledge "Water Cycle" and "Thunder and Lightning" Songs, Weather Patterns, "Tornadoes"
 - Take a piece of paper and fold it two times: once across and once top to bottom so that it is divided into 4 quadrants.



• Draw these shapes in the corner of each quadrant.



- 1. Square
- 2. Triangle
- 3. Circle
- 4. Question Mark

3. Write!

Square:	What one thing did you read that was interesting to you?
Triangle:	What one thing did you read that taught you something new?
Circle:	What did you read that made you want to learn more?
Question Mark:	What is still confusing to you? What do you still wonder about?

• Find at least one classmate who has read [selection] and talk to each other about what you put in each quadrant.

2. Quiz Maker - Wild Weather, "Extreme Weather"

- Make a list of # questions that would make sure another student understood the information.
- Your classmates should be able to find the answer to the question from the resource.

Step 5 on Checklist for Creating an Expert Pack

- Include answers for each question.
- Include the where you can find the answer in the resource.

Question	Answer
1.	
2.	
3.	
5.	

3. Wonderings - "Storms", "Roy Sullivan Struck by Lightning 7 Times" and "After Hurricane Katrina, Read for Relief"

On the left, track things you don't understand

from the article as you read.

On the right side, list some things you still wonder

(or wonder now) about this topic.

I'm a little confused about:	This made me wonder:	

4. Pop Quiz "Hurricane"

Answer the following questions.

Question	Answer
1. Describe the Intertropical Convergence Zone.	1. The trade winds from the Northern and Southern hemispheres meet to create storms. Hurricanes take shape over sections of water that are at least 80F and 200F in depth.
2. What is the difference among a tropical depression, tropical storm, and a hurricane?	2. The speed of the winds increases with each stage.
3. Why does a hurricane weaken as it travels over land?	3. It loses its source of heat and moisture (the ocean).

Expert Pack: Wild Weather

Submitted by: Washoe County School District, NV Grade: K-2 Date: May 2015

Expert Pack Glossary

Wild Weather, Ben Smith

Word	Student-Friendly Definition
Rumble	A low continuous sound. A rumble was heard coming from the sky as a
	storm came closer.
Wild	Not being under control; dangerous. The weather turned wild as the rain
	started to come down on us.
Hail	Pieces of ice that fall from clouds sometimes during thunderstorms. During
	the storm, large pieces of hail looked like ping pong balls falling from the
	sky.
Sea	The salt water that covers most of the Earth; the oceans. During the
	hurricane, the ship was tossed about on the sea, and waves crashed against
	it.
Damage	A loss or harm caused by injury to one's person or property. After a
	tornado, families return home to see how much damage there is to their
	houses.
Gulf of Mexico	A part of the Pacific Ocean extending into Mexico's shore land. After a long
	voyage, the ship arrived in the Gulf of Mexico and was ready to dock.
Jumbo jet	A very large airplane that can carry many passengers. When I traveled to
	Hawaii, I flew on a jumbo jet with many seats.

"Water Cycle" and "Thunder and Lightning" songs

Word	Student-Friendly Definition
Lightning	The very bright flashes of light in the sky that happen during
	thunderstorms. I could see the lightning flash through my window during
	last night's storm.
Wonder	A feeling of great surprise and pleasure that you have, for example when
	you see something that is very beautiful, or when something happens
	that you thought was impossible. When I saw the beautiful rainbow after
	the storm, I felt a sense of wonder.
Expands	When something becomes larger. As I blew air into the balloon, it began
	to expand and get larger.

Word	Student-Friendly Definition
Blizzard	A severe snowstorm. During the blizzard, all I could see was white snow
	falling outside my window.
Drought	Time of very dry weather when there is very little or no rain. Due to lack
	of water, many plants and animals die during a drought.
Dust Storm	Storm with strong winds and swirling dust. During the dust storm, wind
	and dirt smacked against the windows of my car.

Wild Weather, Anita Ganeri

Flood Alert	Warning given to people to tell them that floods are likely. When I heard
	the flood alert on the TV, I knew it was time to leave my house; the flood
	waters were getting too high and dangerous.
Hailstone	Ball of hard ice that falls from a thundercloud. During the storm, large
	hailstones the size of golf balls fell from the sky
Heat Wave	Stretch of very hot weather. On the tenth day of the heat wave, people
	wished for rain and cooler weather.
Hurricane	Giant spinning storm. All of the ships were told to come to shore before
	the hurricane; it would be too dangerous for them to be at sea.
Lightning Rod	Metal rod that catches lightning and carries it down safely to the ground. I
	was thankful that the lightning struck the lightning rod rather than any
	houses on my street.
Thundercloud	Huge black cloud. It is called a cumulonimbus cloud. As the storm
	approached, I could see the dark thundercloud moving in.
Tornado	Violently spinning twist of wind. The wind of the tornado was so strong
	that it picked up cars and parts of buildings.

Weather Patterns

Word	Student-Friendly Definition
Nature	The physical world and everything in it (such as plants, animals, mountains, oceans, and stars) that is not made by people. I love being in the forest with all of nature surrounding me.
Temperature	The degree of hotness or coldness as shown by a thermometer. The temperature was so hot outside that the sidewalk burned my feet as I walked with no shoes.
Climate	The usual weather conditions of a particular place or region. It is very important to check the climate of a particular state before you move there; you want to make sure you like the type of typical weather.
Sun rays	Lines of light from the sun. I could see the sun rays shining through small clear patches in the cloudy sky.
Equator	An imaginary circle around the Earth that is equally distant from the north and south poles. Along the equator, or the center ring around the Earth, it is very hot and rainy.
Angle	A figure formed by two lines extending from the same point. The angle of the sun made our shadows look huge.
Mild	No too hot or too cold; pleasantly warm. The weather was not too hot or too cold yesterday; it was mild and perfect for being outside.
Common	Occurring or appearing frequently. It is common to have windy days in the spring; it is the perfect season for flying a kite.
Predict	To say that something will or might happen in the future. Since the sky is filling with thunderclouds, I predict we will have rain tonight or tomorrow.

"Roy Sullivan Struck by Lightning 7 Times"

Word	Student-Friendly Definition
Strike	If something that is falling or moving strikes something, it hits it. They went inside so they lightning would not strike them.
Searing	Burning, indicates that something such as pain or heat is very intense. The hot sun was searing her skin.
Ranger	A ranger is a person whose job is to look after a forest or large park. The

Step 4 on Checklist for Creating an Expert Pack

"Extreme Weather"

Word	Student-Friendly Definition
Forecast	A statement saying what the weather will be like the next day or for the
	next few days. In the forecast, the weatherman said it would rain on
	Tuesday.
Flash Flood	A sudden rush of water over dry land, usually caused by a great deal of rain.
	The flash flood washed away the small trees.
Tributary	A stream or river that flows into a larger one.
Skiff	A small light rowing boat or sailing boat, which usually has room for only
	one person. The man rowed the skiff across the lake.
Meteorologist	A person who studies the processes in the Earth's atmosphere that cause
-	particular weather conditions, especially in order to predict the weather.
	The meteorologist predicted that it would snow on Monday.
Colleagues	The people you work with. My colleagues and I will go to lunch after our
	meeting.
Broadcasting	The making and sending out of television and radio programs. They were
	broadcasting the football game on TV.
Barge	A long, narrow boat with a flat bottom. Barges are used for carrying heavy
	loads, especially on rivers and canals. The barge carried the tree trunks
	across the river.
Canoe	A small, narrow boat that you move through the water using a stick with a
	wide end called a paddle. My dad taught me how to paddle the canoe
	across the pond.
Submerged	Below the surface of some water. The tree trunks were submerged in the
	lake.

"Tornadoes"

Word	Student-Friendly Definition
Downdraft	A strong downward rush of air that cause damaging winds. The downdraft
	caused problems for the people fighting the forest fire.
Horizontal	Something that is flat and level with the ground, rather than at an angle to
	it. When we lie down to go to sleep, we are horizontal.
Hurl	To throw something violently and with a lot of force. The little boy tried to
	hurl the stick.
Rotating	To turn in a circular motion. The spinning top was rotating on the table.
Tremendous	A word that describes how large something is. The elephant's footprint was
	tremendous.
Updraft	Upward movement of air. The balloon got stuck in the updraft and floated
	away.
Uproot	When something, like a tree, is pulled out of the ground. The wind was
	strong enough to uproot the small trees.
Vertical	Something that stands or points straight up. The tree was vertical to the
	ground.
Violent	Something that is felt very strongly. The bear gave the tree a violent shake
	to make the apples fall.
Vortex	A mass of wind or water that spins around so fast that it pulls objects down

	into its empty center. The vortex spun over the ocean.
Waterspout	A tornado occurring over water. While we were fishing we saw a
	waterspout in the middle of the lake.

"Hurricane"

Word	Student-Friendly Definition
Animation	A film in which drawings or puppets appear to move. A cartoon is an
	animation.
Hemisphere	One half of the earth. Australia is in the southern hemisphere.
Converge	Where something meets, or comes together. The animals began to
	converge in the middle of the forest.
Unstable	When something can change very suddenly. The weather is unstable, it
	could begin to rain any second.
Condenses	When a gas or vapor changes into a liquid. The hot steam condenses on the
	shower door.
Atmosphere	The layer of air or other gases around a planet. The clouds are up in the
	atmosphere.
Devastating	Something that is very harmful or damaging. The winds were devastating
	the trees.
Counterclockwise	Moving in the opposite direction to the direction in which the hands of a
	clock move. The children moved counterclockwise in a circle.
Storm surge	A sudden powerful movement of water. The beach was being ruined by the
	storm surge.
Disempowering	To take away power. The queen was disempowering the village people.

"After Hurricane Katrina: Read for Relief"

Word	Student-Friendly Definition
Collect	To bring things together from several places or from several people. The
	little boy liked to collect rocks.
Donate	To give something to someone. I will donate my books to the school library.
Pledge	If you pledge a sum of money to an organization or activity, you promise to pay that amount of money to it at a particular time or over a particular
	period. I pledge to pay \$2.00 every month to help keep our playground clean.
Victim	Someone who has been hurt or killed. The little bear was a victim of the forest fire.
Routine	The usual series of things that you do at a particular time. My morning routine is to wash my face, comb my hair, and brush my teeth before I leave for school.