The following instructional plan is part of a GaDOE collection of Unit Frameworks, Performance Tasks, examples of Student Work, and Teacher Commentary. Many more GaDOE approved instructional plans are available by using the Search Standards feature located on GeorgiaStandards.Org.

Georgia Performance Standards Framework for ELA Unit 7 – 4th Grade

Grade: 4th
Topic: “Discovering Weather” using literacy stations

Instructional unit: Unit 7: Making Choices and Moving Toward Independent Investigation: Applying the Research Process to Authentic, Real-World Projects (in reference to Week 2, # 4)
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The tasks: The focus of this unit is to get students working on “real-world” projects that will involve reinforcing connections among the reading, writing, speaking, and listening standards. Fourth Grade science standards will also be used to help students learn about a weather unit. There are 4 kinds of weather stations. Students form small groups of 4-5. The teacher needs to teach mini lessons every day before students go to these stations. These stations are for reinforcement. The students should share what they did at their stations and show examples of their work at the end of the work period. (Examples of the tasks are below)

Tasks:

Literacy Stations #1: Computer Center   How are clouds formed?

Students will answer basic questions about their website:

1. What is your website? _________________________

2. My web site is about:

_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________

3. Write 5 important facts about the topic from your website.
   1. ______________________________________
   2. ______________________________________
   3. ______________________________________
   4. ______________________________________
   5. ______________________________________

4. Draw an illustration about your topic and label important parts of your illustration.

5. What did you like or not like about this web site?
   I liked or did not like about this website:
   ___________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________

6. What are 4 new vocabulary words you learned from this site?
   1. __________   2. __________   3. __________   4. __________
Literacy Station #2: Vocabulary Center: Identify different kinds of clouds

Nonfiction books suggested for students to look at about weather

Define and illustrate the 4 kinds of clouds. Put the clouds in a setting that goes along with that type of cloud. The setting could be a sunny or a stormy day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stratus</th>
<th>Cirrus</th>
<th>Cumulus</th>
<th>Nimbus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Water Cycle Station #3
The students make small individual charts about the water cycle process. Posters showing the water cycle, the 4th grade science book, and any other nonfiction book about the water cycle should be at this station. The teacher should have modeled how to make a chart in his or her mini-lesson and put it at this station requiring labeling and diagramming. The teacher should provide chart paper, markers, and crayons.
Precipitation Station #4: Make a flip book about different kinds of precipitation. Students label and illustrate on the front and cut along the lines. On the inside of the book, the students write: These are the 6 kinds of precipitation. I will define precipitation:

Outside of the flip book:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rain</th>
<th>Snow</th>
<th>Sleet</th>
<th>Hail</th>
<th>Clouds</th>
<th>Fog</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

illustrate and cut each flip page

Inside of the flip book:

Define precipitation:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

The six kinds of precipitation are:

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6.

Differentiation The teacher needs to take into consideration the learning styles of her students when making up the groups for these stations.

Computer Station: Teacher creates a different follow up sheet with fewer questions and requires more illustrations.

Vocabulary Station: The student illustrates different kinds of clouds and draws one-two settings instead of 4 settings.

Water Cycle Station: Make sure there is a model to follow.

Precipitation Station: Make sure there is a model to follow.
Focus Standards:
ELA4R1 The student demonstrates comprehension and shows evidence of a warranted and responsible explanation of a variety of literary and informational texts.
For informational texts, the student reads and comprehends in order to develop understanding and expertise and produces evidence of reading that:
c. Identifies and uses knowledge of common graphic features (e.g., charts, maps, diagrams, illustrations).

ELA4R3 The student understands and acquires new vocabulary and uses it correctly in reading and writing. The student
a. Reads a variety of texts and incorporates new words into oral and written language

ELA4W2 The student demonstrates competence in a variety of genres.
The student produces informational writing (e.g., report, procedures, correspondence) that:
d. Includes appropriate facts and details.
g. Draws from more than one source of information such as speakers, books, newspapers, and online materials.

ELA4W3 The student uses research and technology to support writing. The student
a. Acknowledges information from sources.

S4E3. Students will differentiate between the states of water and how they relate to the water cycle and weather.
c. Investigate how clouds are formed
d. Explain the water cycle (evaporation, condensation, and precipitation)
e. Investigate different forms of precipitation and sky conditions (rain, snow, sleet, hail, clouds, and fog

Circumstances of the assignment/Notes to the Teachers:
The Georgia Department of Education offers great resources for teachers on their website. Check out the “frameworks” which gives units, lesson plans, tasks, videos, and lots of great ideas for all subjects.