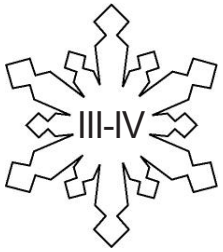
Measuring Change Scavenger Hunt

Levels



Grades 5-8

Overview:

Students learn how scientists measure changes in the climate over time by navigating the *Global Climate* DVD and searching for answers to ancient weather questions.

Objectives:

The student will:

- interact with the *Global Climate* DVD; and
- answer questions regarding the "Measuring Change" unit.

Materials:

- *Global Climate* DVD
- STUDENT WORKSHEET: "Measuring Change Scavenger Hunt"

Activity Procedure:

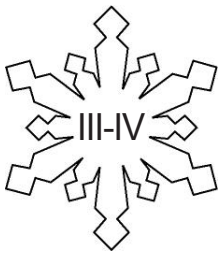
Distribute the *Global Climate* DVD and the STUDENT WORKSHEET: "Measuring Change Scavenger Hunt." Ask students to complete the worksheet by navigating through the DVD.

Answers:

1. *ice cores, air, dust*
2. *sediment, pollen*
3. *crossdating*
4. *fossilized, tracks*

Name:_____

Levels



Student Worksheet

Measuring Change Scavenger Hunt

Directions: Explore the "Measuring Change" section of the *Global Climate* DVD and fill in the blanks below using the words from the word choice box.

Scientists measure past changes in climate by investigating clues from the environment today. Records of climate change can be found in ice, sediment, tree rings, and fossils.

1. _____ are samples of the layers of ice built over thousands of years. The layers of an ice core can reveal clues about ancient temperatures, atmosphere, and climate. Ice cores can help piece together the chemical makeup of _____ in ancient climates. Bubbles trapped in the ice contain tiny samples of ancient atmosphere. Ice cores can also indicate to scientists the climate over a period of time. _____ blown over the ocean can become trapped in sea ice.

2. Cores of _____ pulled from the bottom of oceans and lakes contain clues about ancient climate. By dating and identifying the materials in a specific layer of a sediment core, scientists can determine the climate at the time the layer was formed. Sediment cores from lakes contain plant fragments and _____. Pollen reveals what plant species grew near a lake. By studying pollen in sediment layers, scientists can estimate the climatic conditions under which different species thrived.

3. Tree rings are a third method of examining climate change. A thin rod of wood called a core is taken from live trees, dead trees, and ancient building materials. The record of an individual tree usually only goes back a century or two. By using _____, the record can be extended back in time.

4. Lastly, _____ bones, skin prints, egg, and _____ of ancient animals can provide clues that scientists can use to piece together past climates.

Word Choice
pollen
air
tracks
ice cores
dust
sediment
fossilized
crossdating