

Thunderstorms

Grade 5

Science

Unit 3: Force, Motion, and Energy Transformations Louisiana Comprehensive Curriculum

Unit Description

In this unit we will learn the atmospheric forces and motions needed to produce a thunderstorm. We will explore the life cycle of thunderstorms and identify products of severe thunderstorms. To conclude we will look at the hazards produced by severe thunderstorms from the various motions involved in thunderstorm development.

Student Understandings

Students will be able to identify the forces and motions needed for thunderstorm development. Explain the concept of instability vs. stability and how upward motion enhances thunderstorm growth. Discuss the different types of thunderstorms hazards and what motions enhances their occurrence within a thunderstorm.

Guiding Questions

1. Can students identify forces and motions needed for thunderstorms development?
2. Can students define and explain the thunderstorm instability vs. stability?
3. Can students recognize what atmospheric motions are needed to produce various thunderstorms hazards?

Unit 3 Grade-Level Expectations (GLEs)

Force, Motion, and Energy Transformations	
13.	Identify patterns in data to explain natural events (SI-M-A4)
14.	Develop models to illustrate or explain conclusions reached through investigation (SI-M-A5)
15.	Identify and explain the limitations of models used to represent the natural world (SI-M-A5)
16.	Use evidence to make inferences and predict trends (SI-M-A5)