

Lesson Plan

Light and Sound

Book: *Thunderstorms*

Series: Weather

Level: Scout

Objective

To help students practice applying the main ideas they learned from one text to another similar situation.

Supplies

- *Thunderstorms* book

Before the Activity

Read the *Thunderstorms* book out loud to students.

Activity

Choose a student to read the text on page 6 out loud: “Lightning flashes. We hear a sound. The sound is thunder.” Explain that we usually see lightning before we hear the thunder. That is because light travels faster than sound. The light waves from the lightning reach our eyes before the sound waves from the thunder reach our ears. In fact, the farther away the lightning is from us, the bigger the gap there is between when we see the lightning and when we hear the thunder.

To practice applying this concept, ask students the following questions:

- Suppose someone lights a firework over a lake. For the people watching it, which would seem to come first: the flash of color when the firework explodes or the loud boom it makes? Why? (Answer: the flash of color, because light travels faster than sound)
- Suppose another group of people are watching the same firework from way across on the other side of the lake. Would the gap between the flash of color and the boom seem longer or shorter to these people? Why? (Answer: longer, because they are farther away from the firework)

Evaluation

Could students correctly answer the questions based on what they learned about light and sound?

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade K (RI K.1).