

Mountain Climate

2 onsite activity



This activity is conducted in the Museum in the same manner as *Onsite Activity 1*. The two activities are separated because they address different subject matter. You may not have enough time to complete both of them, or you might divide your class into two groups with each doing only one activity. However, if you can, allow enough time for your students to do both activities.

A KEY TO QUESTIONS IN FIELD JOURNALS

- 1. Weather is short-term effects of climate. It can change daily or hourly. Climate is the long-term weather conditions in an area. It rarely changes enough to be noticed in one's lifetime.*
- 2. & 3. Thunderstorms are part of a cycle of warm air rising, cooling off, water vapor condensing into clouds, and falling to the ground as rain and hail.*
- 4. Thunderstorms form in summer because the land absorbs the sun's heat and warms the air directly above the*
- ground, causing it to rise. In winter, the land does not absorb as much heat and cannot make the convective currents.*
- 5. Lightning can cause a tree to fall, or it can start a forest fire. Avalanches carry tons of snow that bulldoze trees from mountainsides. Wind creates "flagged" trees and also can blow down trees. Floods can move rocks, soil, and trees and reshape the landscape.*

Materials

- Student Field Journals
- Pencils
- Clipboards

Site

Moraine Park Museum