



Studying Weather With Internet Penpals

Objectives:

- Using and understanding the basic functions of the Internet
- Understanding a basic spreadsheet
- Knowing terms such as cell, X-Axis and Y-Axis
- Entering data into a spreadsheet



Program Needed:

You will first need Internet access because you can find pen pals on the Internet. There are always schools eager to become partners on the Internet. There are also specific programs which you can purchase, such as National Geographic's *Kid's Pen Pal Network*, that will connect you (assuming you have a modem) with other classes similar to yours across the world. *Kid's Pen Pal Network* will pair your class with 8–10 other classes across the world to study a specified topic together for six weeks. *Kid's Pen Pal Network* programs which are currently available study weather, solar energy, acid rain, pollution, and nutrition.

To make this graph, use a program which has a spreadsheet capability.

Instructions:

1. Discuss this weather project with your Internet pen pals. This particular graph compares temperatures of three US cities for one week.
2. Have each school collect their temperature data—the high temperatures for their particular city in a designated week.
3. In column A, enter the names of the cities. See the example below.
4. In row 1, enter the days of the week.
5. Enter the temperature data in Cell B2 through F4.
6. Add the graph on the screen. A bar or line graph works the best.
7. Add a chart title, X-Axis title, and Y-Axis title.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	Norfolk, VA	20	18	17	21	23
3	Orlando, FL	29	31	33	35	38
4	Chicago, IL	5	5	7	6	4

Extension Ideas:

You could graph any type of data related to weather, such as cloud formations, barometric pressure, or average precipitation.

Temperature Comparisons

