



# Teacher Feature

## The Lesson

### A Dark and Stormy Night Viewing Guide

#### Objective:

Students will learn to describe the differences between thunder and lighting, and how to predict how far away a storm is.

## About the Teacher

**Name:** Katria Heringer

**Grade:** 1st Grade

**Location:** Billings, MT

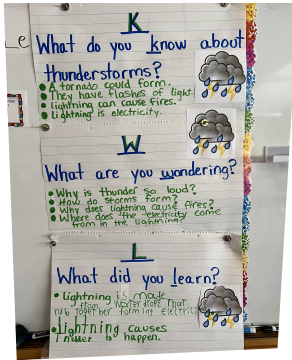
**Local PBS Station:** Montana PBS Kids

**Teacher Bio:** My name is Katria Heringer and I teach first grade in Billings, MT. I have a masters degree in Early Childhood Education, and I have been teaching for eleven years. I love to make learning fun and engaging for my students, and PBS Kids is a great resource to do just that!



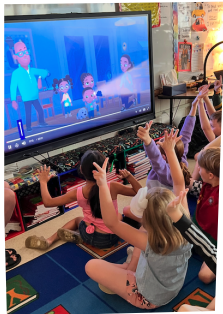
## SPARK Media can help spark interest or help generate questions on a topic.

To spark my students interest in weather, I introduced the **Staying Safe in Sunny and Stormy Weather printable**. My students started thinking about their previous experiences with thunderstorms and this helped us talk about the background knowledge that they already had about the topic. Together, we also created an anchor chart to document their curiosities.



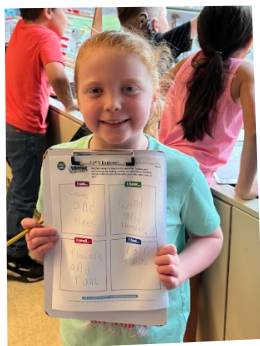
## MODEL Characters in media can model skills and behaviors for children to practice.

Next, we viewed the episode "A Dark and Stormy Night" from *Weather Hunters*. Throughout the episode, there were many opportunities to stop and engage in conversation with my students. As we watched, The Hunter family used counting seconds to determine how far away the storm was. My students counted along so they could be a part of the learning process.



## EXPLORE Media can be used to investigate and research a topic, concept or idea more deeply.

After viewing the episode, my students used the **Let's Explore! printable** to observe the weather in our area. They used what they learned in the episode to explain their observations. Then they compared what the storm in our area was doing, and how it was similar to the one in the episode. My students were able to document their thoughts and relate their learning to real-life experiences.



To learn about six approaches to integrating media in your classroom, [click here.](#)