Weather or Climate?

Alaska FFA Association & USDA Northwest Climate Hub





Adapted from USDA Southwest Climate Hub's "Weather or Climate" Lesson Plan created by the Asombro Institute for Science Education.

University of Alaska Fairbanks Video on Climate and Weather



https://uaf-accap.org/2019/09/05/climate-andweather-whats-the-difference/

Weather or Climate?

- Weather is a description of short-term atmospheric conditions. It can include temperature, humidity, precipitation, cloudiness, visibility, wind, and atmospheric pressure. These observations are used to describe the conditions over a short time period, from minutes to months.
- Climate is the long-term pattern of weather in an area. It describes the average weather for a region over a longer time period, often defined as approximately 30 years or more.

Fig 1. Forecaster in Alaska



Caption

Fig 2. Average annual temperature in Alaska from 1980-2021



Credit: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/statewide/time-series/50/tavg/ann/12/1980-

Fig 3. Lowered pond levels due to permafrost thaw—northeastern interior Alaska



Fig 4. Rain gauge



Fig 5. Average annual precipitation in Alaska from 1980-2021



Fig 6. Snowstorm



Fig 7. Average global surface temperature

