**Lesson Plan**

**Name: \_\_211\_ Course: \_\_\_Earth Science\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_9\_\_\_\_\_**

**Unit: \_\_Air Pressure and Wind\_**

**Big Idea: \_\_Unequal heating of the Earth causes wind\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Subconcept: \_\_Tornadoes are caused by unique wind patterns\_\_\_\_**

**Literacy Strategy(s): \_\_KWL\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Lesson: \_Tornado KWL\_\_ Date Taught: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Learning Objective(s):**

* **Students will be able to describe the conditions in which a tornado forms.**

**Idaho Standards (or National Standards if no Idaho Standards exist): National Standard:** Heating of earth’s surface and atmosphere by the sun drives convection within the atmosphere and oceans, producing winds and ocean currents.

**Detailed Description of Lesson:**

1. Bellwork: In science notebooks, have students copy the KWL diagram on the board and begin filling it in. (Or, provide copied sheet with the diagram and have them fill that in)
2. (~10 min ) Students should fill in at least 5 things they know about tornadoes, and they should come up with at least 5 questions they have about tornadoes. (Or choose any number depending on how much time you want them to spend on this)
3. (~5 min) Have students log into a computer. Direct students to spend the next 20 minutes looking through the following two sites. They should be looking for answers to the questions they had, as well as any other new information they find interesting.

List these internet sites either on the board or on their handout.

[www.nssl.noaa.gov/edu/safety/tornadoguide.html](http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/edu/safety/tornadoguide.html)

[www.nationalgeographic.com/forcesofnature](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/forcesofnature)

1. (~20 min)Have students fill in at least 8 things they have learned from these sites about tornadoes. Give them a time limit leaving about 10 minutes at the end of class (I usually require that they have their 8 things filled in before they are allowed to play with making a tornado.)
2. (~10 min)Have a class discussion where students share what they learned. (If students are reluctant to share or not very talkative, I also use this time to discuss tornado safety and recent tornadoes in the news.)