

## 6. INSTRUMENTS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

Since meteorology is an observational science, instruments play an important role in gathering information about the atmosphere. Weather stations can be built and outfitted with weather instruments, but they typically are expensive, so price comparisons should be made prior to purchase. Catalogues and price lists may be obtained from reputable scientific supply houses. Selected updated address lists of suppliers of scientific and instructional equipment can be found in the annual issue of the *Science Education Suppliers Supplement* and other publications from the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA):

1742 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20009-1171.

Phone: (202) 328-5800

Before purchasing weather instruments, the following references should be read:

Snow, J.T., and S.B. Harley, 1987: Basic meteorological observations for schools: Temperature. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, **68**, 486-496.

Snow, J.T., and S.B. Harley, 1988: Basic meteorological observations for schools: Rainfall. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, **69**, 497-507.

Snow, J.T., M.E. Akridge, and S.B. Harley, 1989: Basic meteorological observations for schools: Surface winds. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, **70**, 493-508.

Snow, J.T., M.E. Akridge, and S.B. Harley, 1992: Basic meteorological observations for schools: Atmospheric pressure. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, **73**, 781-794.

Virgo, S.E., 1976: Some simply made and inexpensive meteorological instruments. *Weather*, **31**, 404-411.

### 6.1. WEATHER KITS

To aid teachers with limited experience in weather instrumentation, several supply companies package sets of instruments and other instruction materials which can be used as a self-contained kit for weather study. Some teachers create their own weather kits from an assortment of materials, or augment the kits with additional instruments.

Suggested components for a weather kit are a thermometer, maximum/minimum thermometer, soil thermometer, anemometer, rain gauge, sling psychrometer, radio-meter, sundial, barometer, barographs, and thermograph. Other desirable features include an atmosphere chart, a good book, weather log, and five-day weather watch.

#### •Beginner's Pack

Barometer, maximum/minimum thermometer, radio-meter, rain gauge, wind meter, cloud chart, weather guide, and weather log. \$88.00 plus \$5.50 shipping.

#### •Box Topics: Storms and Weather Forecasting

Pullouts, flip cards, stickers, and activity book. \$34.95.

1997, Briarpatch, P.O. Box 604, Short Hills, NJ 07079.

#### •Children's Pack

Five-day weather watcher, radiometer, sundial, cloud chart, tornado tube, weather information cloud chart, and weather activity book. \$25.00 plus \$5.00 shipping.

Wind and Weather, The Albion Street Water Tower, P.O. Box 2320, Mendocino, CA 95460.

Phone: (800) 922-9463

#### •Storm Watch

Book and air balance forecasting station. \$14.95.

#### •Water Watch Kit

Book, rain gauge, and acid rain test kit. \$14.95.

#### •Weather Guide Photo Anthology I & II

Postcard collection of photos from Weather Guide Calendars. \$6.95 for both volumes.

Accord Publishing Ltd., 1407 Larimer Square, Suite 206, Denver, CO 80202-1723

Phone: (303) 595-3839

#### •Weather Watcher Kit

Maximum/minimum thermometer, 2-inch rain gauge, and handbooks. \$16.90.

Fisher Scientific

Phone: (800) 621-4769

### 6.2. WEATHER INSTRUMENT & SCIENCE EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS

Several companies only supply weather instruments for professional purposes or the serious amateur. Usually, instruments obtained from these supply houses are of high quality and may be expensive. Other companies have instruments for a range of disciplines and educational institutions. They stock some instruments for the home and

school. These instruments usually suffice for beginners and the more casual weather observer. In addition, some suppliers have instructional materials, as in other sections of this publication. Companies usually will furnish catalogs on request. Some models and teaching aids are also offered.

American Weather Enterprises  
P.O. Box 1383  
Media, PA 19063

Beckley-Cardy  
917 Hickory Lane  
Mansfield, OH 44901-8105

Carolina Biological Supply Co.  
2700 York Road  
Burlington, NC 27215-5551

Central Scientific (CENCO)  
11222 Melrose Avenue  
Franklin Park, IL 60131  
Phone: (800) 262-3626  
Fax: (708) 451-0231

Clearvue  
6465 North Avondale Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60631-1996  
Phone: (800) 253-2788  
Fax: (800) 444-9855  
Web: [www.clearvue.com](http://www.clearvue.com)

Cloud Chart, Inc.  
P.O. Box 21298  
Charleston, SC 29413  
Phone: (843) 577-5268

Davis Instruments  
3465 Diablo Avenue  
Hayward, CA 94545-2778  
Phone: (800) 678-3669  
Fax: (510) 670-0589  
Email: [info@davisnet.com](mailto:info@davisnet.com)

Delta Education  
P.O. Box 3000  
Nashua, NH 03061-3000  
Phone: (800) 442-5444  
Fax: (800) 282-9560  
Web: [www.delta-ed.com](http://www.delta-ed.com)

Edmund Scientific  
101 East Gloucester Pike  
Barrington, NJ 0800  
Product information:  
(609) 573-6879  
Orders: Phone: (609) 547-8800  
Fax: (609) 573-6295

ETA  
620 Lakeview Parkway  
Vernon Hills, IL 60061-1838  
Phone: (800) 445-5985  
Fax: (800) ETA--9326  
Web: [www.etauniverse.com](http://www.etauniverse.com)

Fisher Scientific Co.  
4901 West LeMoyné Street  
Chicago, IL 60651  
Phone: (800) 621-4769

Forestry Suppliers, Inc.  
P.O. Box 8397  
205 West Rankin Street  
Jackson, MS 39284-8397  
Phone: (800) 647-5368  
Fax: (800) 543-4203  
Web: [www.forestry-suppliers.com](http://www.forestry-suppliers.com)

Frey Scientific Co.  
905 Hickory Lane  
Mansfield Lane  
Mansfield, OH 44905  
Phone: (800) 225-FREY

H & R Corporation  
401 East Erie Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19134

Hubbard Scientific  
P.O. Box 104  
Northbrook, IL 60065  
Phone: (800) 221-9884  
(312) 272-7810

Nasco Science  
901 Janesville Avenue  
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538-0901  
Phone: (800) 558-9595  
Fax: (414) 563-8296

Nasco West  
1524 Princeton Avenue  
Modesto, CA 95352-3837  
Phone: (209) 529-6957  
Fax: (209) 529-2239

Northeast Discount Weather Catalog  
Viking Instruments, Inc.  
524 Main Street  
South Weymouth, MA 02190  
Fax: (781)331-9040  
Orders: (800) 325-0360

NovaLynx Corp. (Division of Qualimetrics, Inc.)  
WeatherMeasure and Weathertronics  
P.O. Box 240  
Grass Valley, CA 95945-0240  
Phone: (916) 477-5226  
Fax: (916) 477-8339

PGC Scientifics  
9161 Industrial Court  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877  
Phone: (800) 424-3300  
(301) 840-1111  
Fax: (301) 9990-0740

Radio Shack  
One Tandy Center  
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Robert E. White Instruments, Inc.  
34 Commercial Wharf  
Boston, MA 02110  
Phone: (800) 992-3045

Schoolmasters Science  
745 State Circle Box 1941  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106  
Phone: (800) 521-2832  
Fax: (800) 654-4321  
Email: schscience@aol.com  
Web: www.schoolmasters.com

Science Associates  
31 Airpark Road  
Box 320  
Princeton, NJ 08542

Science Kit and Boreal Laboratories  
777 East Park Drive  
Tonawanda, NY 14150  
Phone: (800) 828-7777

Simerl Instruments  
238 West Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
Phone: (301) 849-8667

Teacher's Video Company  
P.O. Box SCE-4455  
Scottsdale, AZ 85261  
Phone: (800) 262-8837  
Fax: (602) 860-8560  
Web: www.teachtsp.com

Tom Snyder Productions  
80 Coolidge Hill Road  
Watertown, MA 02172-2817  
Phone: (800) 342-0236  
Fax: (617) 926-6222  
Web: www.teachtsp.com

Storm Tech  
P.O. Box 474  
Hales Corners, WI 53130

Taylor Scientific Instrument  
95 Glenn Bridge Road  
Arden, NC 28704

Viking Instruments  
The Northeast Discount Weather Catalog  
532 Pond Street  
South Weymouth, MA 02190  
Phone: (800) 325-0360

VWR Scientific Products  
P.O. Box 5229  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089  
Phone: (800) 727-4368  
Fax: (800) 676-2540  
Email: sarwel@sargentwelch.com  
Web: www.sargentwelch.com

Ward's Natural Science Establishments, Inc.  
5199 West Henrietta Road  
P.O. Box 92912  
Rochester, NY 14692-9012  
Phone: (716) 359-2502  
(800) 962-2660

Weatherwise Affects  
440 Middlesex Road  
Tyngsboro, MA 01879  
Phone: (978) 649-8387  
Email: wxaffects@aol.com  
Web: www.weatheraffects.com

Weatherwise Books and Instruments  
Main Street  
New London, NH 03527

How the WeatherWorks  
301 Creek Valley Lane  
Rockville, MD 20850  
Phone: (301) 762-7669  
Phone: (orders only) 1-800-8CLOUD9

Wind and Weather  
P.O. Box 2320  
Mendocino, CA 95460  
Phone: (707) 937-0323