

RAIN (Raising Achievement through Inquiry and Networking) Across the River

North Carolina State Climate Office Program 2018-2019

Participant Expectations and Commitments:

The Learning Team from each school for this science enrichment program will consist of two middle school science teachers, 15 rising 7th graders, a local program manager, and collaborative assistance from scientists and staff at the NC State Climate Office (NCSCO).

The program is **year-round**, beginning in late summer of 2018, extending through the school year with field trips, afterschool science activity sessions, and interactive online dialog and support from program educators and community members. We welcome the involvement of other school personnel, mentors from the professional community, and the parents/guardians of the students.



Student participants will receive training on specialized meteorological equipment (rain gauges, other weather collection devices, and tablets for data analysis) during the summer camp and also during afterschool sessions. Students are required to be active in the scheduled program activities in a positive fashion. Students that are selected into this program will agree to meet the expectations and commitments listed below. **In addition to regular summer and year-round program scheduled sessions and field trips, there will be a spring 2019 student symposium where the RAIN Across the River participants will share their work with their school and community.**

A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS!

Student Expectations:

Sample and Data Management:

- Conduct daily rainfall sampling from installed home weather station and upload results to the national CoCoRaHS (Community Collaborative Rain Hail and Snow) website
- Use other weather sampling equipment to add other information to rainfall data
- Attend scheduled afterschool sessions, including a required morning-only summer camp
- Use appropriate technology to enhance and manage individual weather data

Communication:

- Participate in online discussions and team building activities
- Maintain an ongoing dialog through regular contact with program educators and through online blogs with research experts at the NCSCO

Leadership:

- Be self directed and self motivated
- Set reasonable time lines and complete tasks on the project
- Work well within the framework of the project encouraging other students to positively contribute

Community Citizenship:

- Become involved in local environmental monitoring through daily rainfall recording
- Encourage and support local service projects through the schools and the community that relate to environmental stewardship
- Mentor others in the techniques and procedures used in studying weather

Science Professionalism:

- Share your activities and work from this program at a yearly community/school symposium
- Work toward designing a science research project for participation in the NC Student Academy of Science and/or the State Science Fair

Parent/Guardian Commitment:

- Attend pre-program training session for equipment installation requirements and review of student program expectations
- Be able to install rain gauge (and post) at your home location at a clear distance from any obstructions
- Support your student in daily rain gauge readings and data upload (usually first thing in the morning)
- Promote positive participation from your student in all program activities
- Help support special activities (field trips, etc.) as your schedule allows

Local Middle School Commitment:

- Support participation of students and their families by assisting in scheduling for the program activities

NC State Climate Office Commitment:

- Provide quality science enrichment activities and equipment training - curriculum designed based upon NC Essential Science Standards for 7th grade and National Science Education Standards
- Provide student and family support and assistance in sampling, research, and presentations
- Provide resource individuals with expert knowledge to assist the students
- Provide appropriate and necessary equipment for sampling, research, and data management
- Sponsor a yearly symposium in each county for learning teams to share their yearly accomplishments from this program to the local schools, community leaders, and scientists

For additional information, please contact Colleen Karl at cmkarl@ncsu.edu, Heather Dinon Aldridge at hadinon@ncsu.edu, or Rebecca Ward at rvcumbie@ncsu.edu.