

What's the weather? (SOL 5.16b)

Pick a region of the United States and have the students research the current temperatures of the capitals of each state within the region. Have them record the city, state, and temperature in a chart. Then, students will graph the current temperatures on a line plot.

Resource: Click here for current temperatures by state.

<https://www.weathercentral.com/weather/us/states/>

Weather Forecast Locations for Virginia

Select a city/area for current conditions and extended weather forecasts.

Alexandria	Hampton	Portsmouth
Arlington	Harrisonburg	Richmond
Bristol	Herndon	Roanoke
Charlottesville	Leesburg	Staunton
Chesapeake	Lynchburg	Suffolk
Danville	Manassas	Virginia Beach
Fairfax	Newport News	Winchester
Falls Church	Norfolk	
Fredericksburg	Petersburg	

Questions:

1. Which city, state has the lowest and highest current temperature?
2. What trends or patterns do you see? What do you notice and wonder about the temperatures of your region?
3. Partner up with someone who did a different region and see how your trends are similar or different. What do you notice?

Extension (SOL 5.17d): If you've taught your statistics unit, the students can complete the next part of this task: find the mean, median, mode, and range. After students create and label a line plot using the data, have students find the mean, median, mode, and range to help analyze the temperatures of each range.

Whole-group Extension Suggestion:

As a class, create a stem-and-leaf plot of all of the current temperatures across the nation. Put each region in a different color so you can look for trends and patterns.