



Iowa State University Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society



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DATE: February 10, 2017

TO: Elementary Students, Teachers, and Parents

FROM: Iowa State University Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

RE: 2017 Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest

Severe weather has a huge impact across the country, especially here in the Midwest. Severe weather, ranging from lightning and tornadoes to high winds and flash flooding, can damage property and crops and more importantly cause serious injuries and even death. Most recently, the EF 3 tornado that swept through New Orleans, LA, the strongest ever recorded in the city, injured 25 people and devastated homes. It is extremely important for not only adults but also children to know the dangers and risks of severe weather and know how to be prepared for such an event. For that reason the Iowa State Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society (ISU AMS) is sponsoring a **Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest**. Below is more information on this year's contest, including official rules, poster tips, and flyers for distribution.

The contest is open to all elementary students in the state of Iowa, grades K-6, and will be judged on the basis of how well they can illustrate what they and their families can do to prepare for severe weather events in Iowa. Posters should convey a simple and straightforward message, with legible writing and bright/visible artwork to complement their message. The winners of both categories, grades K-3 and 4-6, as well as honorable mentions will be displayed on the ISU AMS web page and may receive recognition from local media.

For more information, please continue reading the additional pages within this packet or view the ISU AMS Poster webpage: <http://www.meteor.iastate.edu/ams/community/posters.php>

Sincerely,

Cassie Happel
ISU AMS Academic Chair

Official Rules

Eligibility:	All Iowa elementary students grade kindergarten (K) through sixth (6) during the 2016-2017 school year.
Poster Specifications:	<p>Posters must be submitted on poster, tag, or illustration board, and be approximately 22" x 28" inches in size.</p> <p>All artwork must be original, and may be done in any medium, although marker, stencil and the like are preferred.</p> <p>Stenciled, traced, or computer-generated graphics are prohibited.</p> <p>All posters will become property of the ISU AMS.</p> <p>Posters will be judged on the ability to clearly represent severe weather awareness in the state of Iowa.</p> <p>On the back of the poster, the following information about the artist must be Printed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Name, age, and gradeLocal school districtName(s), home address, and telephone of parents.
Deadline:	Posters must be postmarked by March 24 th , 2017 and be received no later than March 27 th , 2017.
Submitting:	Posters should be mailed either flat or rolled to: Poster Contest c/o ISU AMS 3010 Agronomy Hall Ames, IA 50011
Winners:	<p>One (1) first place, and up to three (3) honorable mentions will be given to artists in each category (grades K-3 and grades 4-6).</p> <p>Prizes for winners may include certificates, Iowa State Meteorology window clings, weather radios, and more!</p>

Tips for Teachers & Parents

Creating a poster to help children understand how they can prepare and be aware for severe weather is a great idea both for the classroom and the home. Whether you are a teacher or a parent, here are a few tips and ideas to help with the making of a severe weather awareness poster.

What types of severe weather should you be prepared for and aware of?

High Winds
Hail
Lightning
Tornadoes
Flooding

All of these, among others, are severe weather events that can occur across the state of Iowa. It is your choice whether the poster includes just one or all of the different types of severe weather. Below are a few websites that may help you and the artist(s) learn more about severe weather and what you can do to prepare:

National Weather Service Severe Weather Awareness

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/thunderstorm/>

National Weather Service Storm Ready

<http://www.weather.gov/stormready/>

NOAA Weather Radio

<http://www.weather.gov/nwr/>

Need a few more pointers on what we are looking for in a poster?

- Posters should include drawings, especially colorful drawings, to portray what they can do to be prepared.
- Writing should be short and concise, as well as easy to read.
- The more color the better, let the writing and drawings stand out with eye-catching colors.
- Include a fact! (i.e. Did you know...)
- Come up with a catchy phrase (i.e. 'Turn Around, Don't Drown!')
- Most of all show that you are having fun while taking preparedness seriously!!

Iowa Severe Weather Awareness Poster Contest

Brought to you by:

Iowa State Student Chapter of the American Meteorological Society

Open to students from Kindergarten to Sixth grade.

Make your own poster (approx. 22" x 28") to show how you can be prepared for severe weather!



Winners in the categories: K-3rd and 4th-6th



**NOAA Weather Radio
Iowa State Meteorology Window Cling
Certificates And More!!!**

Posters must be received by March 27, 2017! We hope to receive yours!

For official rules view: <http://www.meteor.iastate.edu/ams/community/posters.php>