





Exploring the evolution of weather symbols

- Use the BBC video (available <u>here</u>) to show the group a range of different weather symbols and how they have evolved over the years.
- 2 Next, look at the symbols shown on the weather symbols on page 3 which are used to visualise data. Explain that these symbols give a simplified overview of the forecast and ask for volunteers to identify what some of the symbols represent.
- Ask the group to each draw a symbol to represent the weather of the day and then in pairs, ask them to compare their weather symbols and think about the following questions:
 - What could make the symbols more exciting or informative?
 - Will these symbols be used in the future? Or will there be new symbols?



Exploring the evolution of weather symbols slide

- Everyone can then show their symbols to the rest of the class.Then as a group, explore the following questions to get the class evaluating weather symbols:
 - Is one symbol accurate for visualising all the weather data for an entire day? What if it's sunny in the morning but raining in the afternoon?
 - What limitations apply to the use of a single symbol?
 - Can you think of alternative ways to communicate beyond the use of a single symbol?



The Met Office provides free education content to support young people to be prepared for the effects of weather and climate change on them and their communities. Find out more at www.metoffice.gov.uk/schools

Weather symbols





