

Seasonal Changes Through Our Eyes and Yours

September 2007

Dear Seasonal Changes Through Our Eyes and Yours participants,

This is the **seventh year** that this project is running and we have many new participants from all parts of the country.

Please check the website (<http://www.lakelandschools.org/EDTECH/Seasons/home.htm>) for the list of participants and make sure that your information is correct. I alphabetized the names so that you would be able to find yourself easily.

We are running the program for **THREE** seasons this year, beginning in the fall of 2007.

We'll all try to do observations during the same week, as specified on the website. This helps with comparison data; a more accurate picture is portrayed when classes can see how observations are different in different parts of the country during the same period of time. Of course, this may not always work if schools are in session at different times of the year. Please let me know if you have problems with the dates suggested on the site.

You can use the template(s) found on the project website and fill in your information and email to me (Linda) and to another class, if desired.

Here are some suggestions for your participation this year.

- After collecting your data and completing your tree observations, **select four or five tree drawings** to send for inclusion on the project website.. Remember, they don't have to be drawn by hand. Use Kid Pix, MS Paint, or any other drawing program that you choose. If you do have your students draw by hand, keep in mind that using colored markers will result in a much better scanned image. Once those drawings are in digital form, **email them to Linda** (lbrandon@lakelandschools.org) **along** with the observation data (temperature, sunrise, sunset). This is a good opportunity to do a shared writing exercise as a class in the form of a friendly letter. Tell your partner class about your observations, how the weather has been in your community over the week, if that was typical or unusual for your geographic area, etc.
- **Communicate using the project blog.** If you would like to contribute to the blog, email Linda asking for a user name and password.
- **You may create your own webpage if you wish.** Send me the page and the graphics, or the link if you post on your own server and I will link to that page. If you want my template, just ask and I will send you the file.
- If your class did any extension activities (wrote tree poems, did bark rubbings, etc.), feel free to send that material as well.

Please feel free to email me with any questions or concerns. I am looking forward to an engaging and exciting collaborative project. Suggestions are certainly encouraged.

Linda Brandon
Lakeland Central School District