

How Weather Works: FOX25 Bringing Weather Into the Classroom

Cindy Fitzgibbon and A.J. Burnett
FOX25 TV
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The science of weather can be a difficult topic to grasp for teachers and students alike. Weather/Meteorology appears on MCAS exams beginning in Grade 5 and basic concepts of weather can be drawn upon in understanding more advanced scientific concepts in later years. FOX25 Meteorologists Cindy Fitzgibbon and A.J. Burnett will share some fun and interactive experiments that can be used in the classroom to understand basic weather principles. They will also highlight some of the valuable Internet resources for gathering weather data and observations, as well as some of the various computer models used in forecasting.

PRESENTER'S BIOS

Cindy Fitzgibbon is a four-time Emmy nominated meteorologist for FOX25 Morning News in Boston, and has been since the show debuted back in 2003. Cindy is celebrating her sixteenth year of broadcast meteorology! Cindy originally joined FOX25 as weekend meteorologist in February 2002.

A native New Englander, Cindy loves being able to forecast the weather where she grew up, and where her passion for the science began. Before coming to Boston, she was sharpening her tropical forecasting skills at WBBH in Fort Myers, FL. Prior to that, Cindy spent more than four years as morning meteorologist at WPTZ in Plattsburgh, NY/Burlington, VT. She got her start in broadcasting at KXMB-TV in Bismarck, ND- a long, long way from home!

Cindy earned her B.S. in Meteorology from Lyndon State College in Vermont; a small school nationally recognized for its meteorology program. She holds the AMS Seal of Approval for excellence in television weather casting, and is both a member of the AMS (American Meteorological Society) and the NWA (National Weather Association).

During the school year Cindy reaches out to hundreds of school children each month, most recently using SKYPE technology to teach weather in the classroom with her weekly school visits. When she's not talking about the weather, Cindy loves spending time with 'her boys' - her husband and two sons, ages 5 and 3.

A.J. Burnett has been a meteorologist with FOX25 since 2000, joining the team officially in 2004. You can catch A.J. weekends on the FOX25 News at 10 (and 11 on Sundays). You will also see him frequently appearing during the week in the mornings or evenings guiding viewers through the weather forecast. In addition to weather, A.J. also handles traffic reports and works on general assignments, focused mainly on environmental and scientific reports.

A.J.'s interest in weather began at the ripe age of three, while watching the late Don Kent from his childhood home on the Cape. After graduating from Rutgers University with a degree in Meteorology, A.J. spent two years with Weather Services Corporation, presenting forecasts for local stations, including WRKO, Mix 104.1, Classical 99.5, and WMVY, as well as several stations scattered across the country and the Caribbean. He then moved to WSI, Corp., another private weather company now located in Andover. There, A.J. prepared forecasts and graphics for television clients in the U.S., Canada, Brazil, and Peru. He also appeared on FOX News Channel, as well as several local Time Warner 24-hour weather channels. While at WSI, A.J. began freelancing at FOX25 in May of 2000.

A.J. holds the American Meteorological Society's Seal of Approval and works hard to maintain that status through continuing professional development.

Away from the office, A.J. works closely with the Alzheimer's Association. An "Alzheimer's Champion," he helps raise awareness about the disease, is the Honorary Chair for the annual 'Make the Link' Golf Tournament, participates in the annual Memory Ride, moderates the Annual Awards Ceremony, and sits on the Board of Directors for the MA/NH Chapter. He volunteers his time to honor his grandmothers, both of whom were afflicted with the disease.

In his free time, A.J. can be found trying to make great photos from behind the lens of his camera (emphasize: trying), biking, or attempting to get his lawn to stay green. A.J., his wife Carrie, and their beautiful baby daughter live on the North Shore.