

## Shreve elementary students keeping tabs on rain, wind, snow and sleet

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TRIWAY DISTRICT -- A stand-alone camera accompanies a WeatherBug weather station at Shreve Elementary School, where a roof-top camera is pointed west/southwest at a brick house across the street.

The idea was to target it in the direction from which most of the storms come, Principal Joe Edinger said.

"It's aimed high enough to see the clouds," instructor Dorene Shade said.

Courtesy of WeatherBug equipment, purchased by the Shreve Business Association, a live image of Shreve -- and the weather surrounding it -- is available at all times.

"It's fun to look at," Principal Joe Edinger said.

Along with the live shot, "Each day at noon (the camera) takes one picture," Edinger said. Except for a couple of missing frames -- the result of a previous power outage -- there is a record of pertinent weather information for the village and the school.

Beyond the pictures are the facts and figures of daily weather.

"The master display (in the office) shows live weather calculations, (such as) wind chill and rainfall," Edinger said.

Weather information is part of the school's daily television broadcast .

Sixth-grade students take turns giving announcements, after checking the high and low temperatures and the forecast for the day on the WeatherBug link on the school's Web site, Shade said.

*Photo By Joel Troyer*  
Shreve Elementary School student Josh Sipe alerts classmates about a partly cloudy day ahead. The school's students are learning about weather forecasting and meteorology using WeatherBug's equipment and Web site.



*Photo By Joel Troyer*  
Shreve Elementary School students Eddie Cummings (left) and Alex Dhayer check the daily weather on the WeatherBug Web site, before reporting it to the student body on the day's announcements.

"They are seen and heard in every room," Shade said. "They're getting experience with public speaking," in addition to gaining some training in meteorology.

During extremely cold weather, the wind chill factor aids in making the decision whether to go out at recess, Shade said.

"The community uses (WeatherBug) on (its) Web site (as well)" at [www.shreveohio.com](http://www.shreveohio.com), Edinger said.

Fourth-grade students are also involved in plotting the weather.

"My kids get on WeatherBug every day to read the weather map," teacher Carla Pringle said. Then they put the appropriate symbols -- static cling stickers -- on a map in the school's front hallway, adjacent to the office.

They'll add more information to their collection of data as the year goes on.

"Right now, we just worry about precipitation and cloud cover," Pringle said. "The kids really enjoy it. It's a treat for them."

"It is a nice system," Shade said.

An additional feature is a login for staff members to access weather-related lesson plans and materials, Edinger said.

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