

## 5.13 Beaufort scale

<p><b>Topic:</b> Weather <b>Subtopic:</b> Climate <b>Activity type/skill:</b> Text organisation <b>Literacy focus:</b> Reading <b>Genre:</b> Explanations</p>
---

### Objective

- Understand the role of illustrations in explanations.
- Use relationship clues such as cause and effect to aid understanding.

### What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)
- Scissors, glue

### What to do














1. Look at the first page of the student worksheet and talk about the Beaufort scale.
2. Ask students why it is important to estimate the speed of winds in weather forecasting. Point out that Beaufort developed his scale in the days of sailing ships.
3. Look at the headings in the table. Practise pronouncing the names of winds and check that students are familiar with the concept of kilometres per hour.
4. Take turns to ask questions like:
  - What do you call a wind with a speed between 26 and 35 kilometres per hour?
  - What is the speed of a gale?
  - What are the effects of a light breeze?
5. Cut out the descriptions of the effects of winds from one copy of the second page of the student worksheet and divide the descriptions between the students – they should not show one another their descriptions.
6. Have the group reconstruct the text in the correct order by negotiation. This should lead to a lot of discussion. Make sure that students are able to interrupt appropriately and disagree with one another politely.
7. When they are agreed on the correct order, give them each a copy of the second and third pages of the student worksheet and have them cut out and reconstruct the text individually and copy or glue it on their own worksheet.

## Activity thirteen

### Measuring the force of wind

In 1805, Sir Francis Beaufort developed a system for estimating the speed of the wind. He made up a scale with 13 points. At each point he gave the wind a number, a name and a description of its effects.

#### Beaufort Scale

Force	Name	Wind Speed	Effects
0	Calm	0 km/h	
1	Light air	1 - 3 km/h	
2	Light breeze	4 - 9 km/h	
3	Gentle breeze	10 - 15 km/h	
4	Moderate breeze	16 - 25 km/h	
5	Fresh breeze	26 - 35 km/h	
6	Strong breeze	36 - 45 km/h	
7	Near gale	46 - 56 km/h	
8	Gale	57 - 68 km/h	
9	Strong gale	69 - 81 km/h	
10	Storm	82 - 94 km/h	
11	Violent storm	95 - 110 km/h	
12	Hurricane	more than 118 km/h	

Activity thirteen



Branches break from trees.

Dust and paper on the ground move.

Serious damage to houses.

Leaves and twigs on trees move.

Buildings destroyed.

Smoke moves a little.

Difficult to walk into wind, twigs break from trees.

Houses damaged; trees uprooted.

Small trees start to sway, waves form on water.

Smoke rises straight up.

Whole trees move.

You can feel the wind on your face.

Large branches move.

