



## Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies



### About COAPS

The Florida State University Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies performs interdisciplinary research in ocean-atmosphere-land-ice interaction to increase our understanding of the physical, social, and economic consequences of climate variability.

COAPS is located in Tallahassee's Innovation Park and has a staff of approximately 50, including teaching faculty, research scientists, and students from the fields of meteorology, physical oceanography, statistics, and the computer and information sciences.

COAPS is a NOAA Applied Research Center and is home to the Florida Climate Center (Office of the State Climatologist) and the Research Vessel Data Center. Sponsors include NASA, NOAA, NRL, NSF, ONR, the State of Florida, USDA, and the U.S. DOE.



## Meteorology & Oceanography Presentations for K-12 Students

COAPS offers the following presentations for K-12 classrooms and other youth groups. To schedule a presentation, please contact the Outreach Logistics Coordinator, Meredith Field, at (850) 645-7457 or [mfield@coaps.fsu.edu](mailto:mfield@coaps.fsu.edu).

### The Cold Dark Ocean

This talk will help younger students understand that most of the ocean is an expansive cold dark abyss. The concepts of solar heating of the ocean surface and effects of temperature and salinity on density will be introduced using simple water tank experiments. Discussion of how life adapts to these conditions, and how oceanographers study the deep ocean will be presented with photographs and videos.

*Length: 45 minutes - 1 hour*

*Target audience: Grades K-6*

### The Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network (CoCoRaHS)

Learn how to measure precipitation using rain gauges, and how your family, classroom, or youth group can participate in CoCoRaHS! CoCoRaHS is a grassroots network of volunteers who collect daily precipitation measurements and submit their measurements into an online database used by scientists around the country.

*Length: 1/2-1 hour*

*Target audience: Grades K-Adult*

### Florida Weather: Hurricanes, Tornadoes & Lightning

An overview of extreme weather in Florida, including interactive questions and answers, and important safety information. A post-presentation quiz is provided upon request.

*Length: 1 hour*

*Target audience: Grades 2-4*

### The Apalachicola River's Influences on Marine Ecosystems

The Apalachicola River has garnered much media attention recently because of the interstate battle over water rights. This talk will focus on variations in the river flow, and the impacts it has on the Bay and offshore marine ecosystems.

*Length: 30-45 minutes*

*Target audience: Grades 7-Adult*

### El Niño and Climate Variability

An introduction to the El Niño/La Niña cycle in the Pacific Ocean and how it impacts the climate of the Southeast U.S. and Florida, including extreme events such as hurricanes, tornadoes, freezes, and droughts.

*Length: 1 hour*

*Target audience: Grades 10-12*

### Climate Change Basics for Florida

A presentation giving background information on the science of climate change, with emphasis on current and projected changes in the state of Florida.

*Length: 1 hour*

*Target audience: Grades 11-12*