

Traditional Wisdom

An activity of "Indigenous wisdom can help us adapt to climate change"

We have many sophisticated ways to predict the weather. It is a science. Yet, indigenous people the world over rely on nature, changes in plants and animal behaviour to accurately predict changes in weather. **"Indigenous wisdom can help us adapt to climate change"** (*What's Up* May 2020) tells us this so wonderfully. Read it carefully.

The table below is about some of the very interesting traditional methods used to predict weather. Unscramble the words in **bold** to discover them.

Australia	a.	When the black cotskoaco start to flock together and the wattle bushes start to flower, the sroginaibe know it is going to rain.
	b.	When the waratah flower obmslo in September and October, it is the sign that warm, wet weather is coming. The ioiudsnge people will not camp near the rivers for fear of flooding during this time.
America	c.	The avtein armicsneA use the difference between the date of the first full moon in vebmNreo and the date of the first snow fall to ietrdcp roughly the number of snow storms that winter . If the former is the 14 th and the latter is the 21 st , then the number of rstmso would be around seven. They use this information on the severity of the winter to plant their crops.
	d.	If flowers which close their ealtsp in the eggnive — like the dandelion and tulip — do not open them in the morning, one can expect heavy rain. The theory is that they close their petals to prevent the epllon from becoming wet and heavy with wed .
Africa	e.	Heavy onlfeigwr of the mango tree in nznaTaia and Zimbabwe indicates a potential drought onesas .
Thailand	f.	The Moken people (sea gypsies) noticed a change in the behaviour of animals before a iuasmnt struck. The aetslenhp had fled to high ground, the pionlshd swam out to deeper water, and the noisy cicadas suddenly went quiet. They abandoned their villages to flee to ghhier ground and were saved. Their villages were completely eseodrtyd .
Around the world (including Singapore)	g.	If you hear a larger than usual number of frogs croaking loudly together, it is a sure sign of coming rina .
	h.	If you are out camping and hear a cricket, uctno the number of chirps it makes in 25 seconds. Divide this urenmb by three and then add four. It will give you the emetapterru in °C. This has been proven and explained scientifically.