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Information collected by buoys is used by many people for a range of reasons such as storm preparation, weather forecasts, ocean ecosystem monitoring and much more. To do this it’s necessary to look at a lot of observations over days, months and years to determine if there’s any kind of pattern. These patters can then be used to make predictions for the future.

**ACTIVITY:**

1. Visit a buoy through the online data portal to access the real-time or historical data.
2. Complete the table below, recording the date, time, air temperature (⁰F), water temperature (⁰F), wind speed (mph), wind gust (mph) and wave height (feet).
3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 for the same buoy at the same time every day for a given period of time.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DATE** | **TIME** | **AIR TEMP (⁰F)** | **WATER TEMP (⁰F)** | **WIND SPEED (MPH)** | **WIND GUST (MPH)** | **WAVE HEIGHT (FT)** |
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**Questions:**

1. Were there any changes in the observations your buoy collected? What were they?
2. What do you think could cause changes in the buoy data?
3. How can it be useful to keep track of this data over time?
4. Besides the measurements collected already, what are some other things that a buoy could record?