

MATTHEW CORKUM, PhD

Seeing the ABILITY in disAbility



Weather: Is It Clear Or Cloudy?

We talk about the weather while not really understanding its effects on our lives-good, bad or dangerous. Extreme weather is fascinating but can be deadly. Accurate forecasting can help keep the you, your family, and the public aware and out of harm's way.

Matthew describes how he was so inspired by his grandfather that he turned to meteorology as his passion and career. You will hear how bullying and inclusion played a role in his journey. Discover how weather impacts your life more than you imagine!

Weather: Is It Clear or Cloudy? (30 to 75 minutes)

Most people are interested in the weather but understand very little about meteorology and the science behind it. They believe old wives' about weather and really don't think about it beyond the days forecast. Students are often interested in weather because it impacts a lot of their experience. Whether it's what not to do on snow days (like stick your tongue on a cold pole on a dare) or how to not get burned during hot summer vacations, or understanding the clouds they contemplate or the effects of climate change-weather matters.

You will:

- Hear the difference between weather and climate, and the basic drivers of both.
- Understand the difference between global warming and climate change.
- Be given the basics of how to make a weather forecast.
- Hear descriptions of extreme weather events such as tornados and hurricanes-this is often the students' favorite!
- Hear some of the many applications of meteorology that affect your life.
- Examine how you include others when you hear how Matthew earned his PhD and became a meteorologist while at times being bullied and excluded.



Those who benefit from Matthew's messages include:

students, educators, and the general public.

"Matty uses his affable personality, and stories of personal experience to demonstrate there is nothing to be feared from people with disabilities; rather, it is through being inclusive we can discover the multitude of gifts and talents those with disabilities undoubtedly have to offer."

Laura Osadetz, Teacher, Calgary, AB

Having experienced bullying and discrimination his whole life has made Matthew Corkum passionate about ensuring that people with disabilities feel as worthwhile and wanted as everyone else! He is a stand for helping everyone focus on the ABILITY in disABILITY.

Matthew has not let his Cerebral Palsy limit his love of living an active life of contribution. Whether getting his PhD, advocating in his advisory role on the City of Calgary's Accessibility Committee, speaking professionally, or simply enjoying his favorite pastime of biking on three continents and counting, he is all-in!

As an atmospheric scientist Matthew works as a head meteorologist in Calgary, Alberta. His humor, helpful insights, and contagious enthusiasm give audiences practical ways to eliminate the stigma, judgement, and misunderstandings that happen when dealing with people that are different. In his off time if he is not developing diversity and inclusion programs, or working out with his trainer, you can find him competing in 'fat bike' and endurance road races.

Member Of:  **CMOS-SCMO**
Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society
Société canadienne de météorologie et d'océanographie

Other presentations in the "Seeing the Ability in disABILITY" series:

- What the Medical System Doesn't Know That's Impacting Quality of Care
- What Business Owners Don't Know That's Hurting Your Bottom Line and Your Success
- What Parents Don't Know That's Keeping Their Kids Held Back, Harassed, and Hidden
- Walk a Mile in My Shaky Shoes (for general audiences)
- Weather: Is it Clear or Cloudy (For School Assemblies)

Just a few places Matt has presented at :

