PROJECT O*CEANOLOGY*

Facebook Live: New London Ledge LightHouse

New London Ledge was the last remaining manned lighthouse on Long Island Sound when it was finally automated in 1987. Prior to then, a keeper stood guard for a daily twelve-hour watch, during which his duties included monitoring the light, transmitting weather information to ships and shore, and performing maintenance on the station. Every few weeks, the keeper received six days of shore leave.

Pretend you are the keeper at Ledge Lighthouse! You must create a log to report about the conditions in Long Island Sound to incoming/outgoing ships and to the shore. Use the weather station that is currently located on Ledge Light to complete the Keeper Log below:

Date:
Air Temperature:
Wind Speed:
Wind Direction:
Barometric Pressure:
Use the webcam in Groton (adjacent to Ledge Light):
Describe Visibility Conditions:

1. Why do you think wind speed is an important measurement for mariners?

2. A fishing vessel is on her way out to work the waters of Long Island Sound. What report should you relay?

3. Do you think it is necessary to turn on the light or the foghorn? Why or why not? Use evidence from your measurements or visual observations.