



Weather Theme

Language & Literacy

Books

What Makes a Rainbow?

by Betty Ann Schwartz (This is a neat little book with colored ribbons that go through the whole thing as you read it.)

The Cloud Book

by Tomie dePalo

Rain Song

by Lezlie Evans

Snow Dance

by Lezlie Evans

Wind

by Susan Canizares

Sun

by Susan Canizares

Storms

by Susan Canizares

Weather

by Pamela Chanko

I am Snow

by Gail Gibbons

Sun Up, Sun Down

by Gail Gibbons

Louhi Witch of North Farm

retold by Toni De Gerz (A folktale about the sun and the moon)

Activities

Rainbow Mobiles- After reading *What Makes a Rainbow*, have children make rainbow mobiles to help reinforce the colors.

Supplies: Cloud shape drawn on white paper (can precut for younger kids), white cotton balls, strips of 6 colored construction paper, glue, scissors, paper punch, string

Directions: Have kids cut out the cloud shape and punch holes on top, tie string to it, to hang it by. Glue colored strips of paper to the backside of cloud.

Songs, Poems, & Finger-plays

What's The Weather?

What's the weather, what's the weather
what's the weather like today?
Is it sunny, rainy, or snowy
what's the weather like today?

If all the Rain Drops Were Lemon Drops and Gum Drops

If all the rain drops were lemon drops and gum drops,
Oh what a rain that would be.

I'd be standing outside with my mouth open wide...
(with tongue sticking out sing) eh, eh, eh-eh,
eh, eh-eh,
eh, eh-eh. *repeat*

I See the Wind

I see the wind when the leaves dance by,
(Dance hands around)
I see the wind when the clothes wave "Hi!"
(Wave hand)
I see the wind when the trees bend low,
(Bend arms over and down)
I see the wind when the flags all blow.
(Wave arms high)
I see the wind when the kites fly high,
(Raise arms high)
I see the wind when the clouds float by.
(Gently wave hands)
I see the wind when it blows my hair,
(Lift hair with hands)
I see the wind 'most everywhere!
(Hold hands out, palms up)

Jean Warren

***1001 Rhymes & Finger Plays, Warren Publishing House*

Rainbow Colors

Rainbow purple, rainbow blue,
Rainbow green and yellow too.
Rainbow orange, rainbow red,
Rainbow smiling overhead.
Come and count the colors with me,
How many colors can you see?
One, two, three, up to green,
Four, five, six colors can be seen.

Jean Warren

The Big Round Sun

The big round sun in the springtime sky,
(Form large circle with arms.)
Winked at a cloud that was passing by.
(Wink eye.)
The little cloud laughed as it scattered rain,
(Flutter fingers downward.)
Then out came the big round sun again.

(Form large circle with arms.)
Adapted Traditional

Rain on the Green Grass

Rain on the green grass,
Rain on the tree.
Rain on the housetop,
But not on me!

Adapted Traditional

Activities

Weather Wheels: Print our **Weather Wheel Activity Sheet** from the **Theme Enhancement Page** pictures and have the children color, and cut them out. Then glue them to a small paper plate. Attach an arrow to the center using a brass fastener. The children can turn the arrow to indicate the weather for the day.

Math & Number Concepts

Weather Chart: Chart the weather for an extended period of time. Ask the children to predict what there will be more of sunny or rainy days. After several weeks ask the children to answer some basic math questions about the chart. Such as: “What were there more of sunny, rainy, or snowy days?” “What type of weather happened the least?” “How many days were sunny?” “How many days were windy?” etc.

Art

Raindrop Pictures: Set out coffee filters and blue watercolor paint with small pipettes for the children to drop raindrops on.

Tissue Paper Rainbows: Precut large rainbow shapes. Offer them at the easel with colored tissue squares and watered down white glue with paintbrushes. Demonstrate to the children how to brush on the glue and encourage them to make a rainbow collage with the tissue paper.

Watercolor Rainbows: Demonstrate to the children how to use watercolor paints. Show them how to paint a simple rainbow picture. Provide them with copies of the rainbow poem to glue to their picture if they wish.

Umbrella Pictures

Directions: Color and cut out umbrella pictures and glue to construction paper, splatter paint over the top of the picture with a toothbrush dipped in blue paint. Have copies of the poem **Rain On The Green Grass** for the children to glue on their picture.

Make a Wind Sock

Supplies: Paper cups, (opt. fun foam), glue, colored tissue paper or metallic part streamers, string, paper punch (cut the bottom off paper cup prior to giving to kids)

Directions: Kids can color and decorate paper cup however they wish (Or cover the paper cup with fun foam), and then glue (or staple) strips of different colored tissue paper (or metallic streamers) to the inside rim of a paper cup. Have children punch two holes in the top of cup one across from another (may need help) tie the ends of the string in the holes to hang it from.

Dramatic Play

Provide the children with raincoats and rubber boots and small child sized umbrellas in the dramatic play area.

Music & Movement

Parachute Weather: Use a parachute or large sheet, have the children shake the parachute like it is a stormy day, a calm breezy day, a rainstorm, a sunny day, etc.

Science & Sensory

Rainbow Rice: Color rice for the discovery table. Mix 1 lb. of rice with 1/3 cup of rubbing alcohol and food coloring in a plastic zip lock bag. Spread out on a cookie sheet over night to dry. Make all 6 colors of the rainbow and mix together in the discovery table for a beautiful rainbow sensory experience.

Glitter Play Dough: Mix blue or silver glitter into some blue homemade play dough, it looks really like there is raindrops in the play dough.

Weather Listening: Collect a few items a head of time to make some weather sounds. A cookie sheet is good for thunder, a pie tin and rice is good for rain. After reading the story **Rain Song** by Lezlie Evans, have the children close their eyes while you make some weather sounds. Ask them to describe what type of weather they think it sounds like. There do not have to be any right or wrong answers. Don't forget to do some windy sounds, tornado sounds, and snow sounds (what does snow sound like?)

Blocks & Building

Build Windmills- Hang some pictures of windmills or display books about windmills in the block area and invite the children to create their own windmills.

Technology

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/weather.html> - Find weather experiments and games.

Cooking & Snacks

Rainbow in a Cloud: Serve different colored Jell-O with whip cream...

Rainbow Colored Vanilla Wafers & Milk

Bulletin Boards

“Somewhere Over the Rainbow...”- Create a classroom rainbow and invite the children to share their hopes and dreams. Write their thoughts on a white cloud cutout and hang them around the rainbow.

Write your ideas here...