



Program: Wee Weather

Post-Visit Activities

Grades K-2

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600 Settlers Landing Road • Hampton, Virginia 23669-4033 • (757) 727-0900 • www.vasc.org



Activities

These activities are intended for use after your visit to the Virginia Air and Space Center. Your students should recall the information, demonstration, and activities from the Wee Weather program in order to do these activities. All of the activities can be tailored to your specific classroom needs, and the procedures listed are suggestions for teaching.

Activity 1: Weather Log or Journal

Have your students spend some time observing the weather. Each day spend about 15 to 20 minutes making a journal of the weather. Have them make and decorate a folder they can put their pictures in. Give them questions that will prompt them to draw a different picture of the Weather everyday. For example:

Monday- Ask your students to draw a picture of their favorite Season.

Tuesday- Have your students draw a picture of what the weather looks like outside that day.

Wednesday- Have students draw a picture of their favorite kind of clouds.

Thursday- Have the students draw a picture of what the weather looked like on their way to school that morning.

Friday- Have students draw a picture of what they predict the weather will look like over the weekend.

Extension: You can use pictures from their Weather Journals to help decorate a classroom bulletin board, or to do a show and tell with their drawings. To incorporate the weather instruments, have them draw what instrument could be used on that certain day to measure the weather.

Activity 2: A Walk in the Clouds

This activity is fun and it also gives your students the opportunity to get outside and breathe some fresh air. Pick a day when it is nice outside and walk your class around. Have them gaze up at the sky and see what kind of shapes the clouds are making. Ask them, "Are all clouds the same or do some look different?" Accept all answers and ask, "Are all clouds puffy?" Encourage students to categorize some of the differences in clouds. Then explain to your students that all clouds are not the same and they have different names. With this age group just share the basic clouds:

Cirrus Clouds - really high wispy clouds.

Stratus Clouds - low lying and rather gray and puffy. These clouds tend to cover the sky at times.

Cumulus Clouds - the big white puffy clouds that look like cotton candy.

Cumulonimbus Clouds - great big heavy clouds that signal a nasty thunderstorm or bad weather.

After sharing the different types of clouds with your students have them practice pronouncing the different types of clouds.

Extension: To further the activity you can also make cloud mobiles or cloud art in your classroom using simple materials like construction paper, glue, cotton balls, yarn (string), and paint. Ask your students to name the type of cloud that they are making. If you make cloud mobiles ask your students to make different types of clouds so they can label them. Also, if this activity works out well with the clouds, you can do the same kind of format for collecting fall leaves so the students can make collages.

Resources

The following is a list of suggested websites that you may find helpful.

Websites

<http://www.proteacher.net/archive/posts/2002/04/11/25892.html>

*You can read the Adventure of Randy the Rain Drop with your class. It is a cute story about the water cycle.

<http://www.weatherwizkids.com/index.htm>

*This is a neat site that has good weather pictures and a list of educational experiments you can do with your class. Try the making thunder with your students.

<http://www.wildwildweather.com/>

*This website includes a lot of good resources for teachers and has a variety of really good cloud pictures.

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/themes/weather.shtml>

*This website contains a variety of weather crafts and an assortment of weather worksheets that you can do with your students.

Books

Always Copycub. Richard Edwards. 2001.

Little Cloud. Eric Carle. 1996.

Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf. Lois Ehlert. 1991.

Sea, Sand, Me! Patricia Hubbell. 2001

The Magic School Bus Kicks Up a Storm. Nancy White.2000.

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