

Clouds and Weather Part Two

Grade: 3rd

Topic: Clouds and Weather

Title: *Predicting Weather from Clouds*

Objective

Students will observe, classify, and record types of clouds. Students will also learn how people predict weather.

Standard:

3.2.7 Ask “How do you know?” in appropriate situations and attempt reasonable answers when others ask the same question.

Materials:

Scott Foresman Student Science Book p.170-192

student science notebook

Indiana Academic Standards; *Curriculum Framework*, p.67-70

Copy of p.69, from *Curriculum Framework* book, for each child. (Teacher may choose to have students draw this chart in their science notebooks instead.)

Activities:

Day Two

1. See pre assessment.
2. Give students two copies of the black line master *Observing Clouds* from *Curriculum Framework*, p.69.
3. Explain to students that for the next 15 days they’ll observe, classify, and record the clouds and the weather they bring.
4. Have students record the date on their BLM, p.69, and the cloud type that is seen in the sky. About an hour or two later, have them record on their BLMs what the weather is like.
5. Repeat step 4 for 15 days.

During the 15 Days of Observation

6. Teacher may choose parts of Chapter 6, *Weather*, in the SF science book to teach and discuss with students.

After 15 Days of Observation

7. See post assessment.
8. After students have had time to write in their science notebooks, discuss their reflections and talk about the four types of clouds and what weather they bring.

Pre Assessment: In their science notebooks, students will answer the question, “What weather predictions can you make from clouds?”

Post Assessment: Below the “Line of Learning” in their science notebooks, have students answer the same question they did in the pre assessment. Have them do this by listing each type of cloud; cumulus, cirrus, nimbus, and stratus, and then writing the type of weather they signify. They will do this by using the data that’s been collected over the last 15 days.

Extension Activity: What makes a cloud?

Make a simulation of a cloud.

1. Ask students what they think clouds are made of. Then explain to them that they are made of dust, pressure, and water.
(Use a 2-liter, a match, a little water (1/8cup or so), and a “fizz-keeper”.)
3. Put water in 2 liter.
4. Light a match and drop it in the bottle.
5. Immediately tighten the “fizz-keeper” on the bottle.
6. Allow students time to observe as you pump the fizz-keeper.
7. Release the “fizz-keeper” and watch the cloud form.

References: *Scott Foresman Indiana Science Teacher’s Edition Grade 3* (2006). Scott Foresman: Glenview, IL. Vol 1.
Indiana’s Science Curriculum Framework Grade 3 (2002). Indiana