Rain and Clouds

| Key Concepts & Ideas: | • Flowers need water to grow.  
|                       | • Rain is water that comes from clouds.  
|                       | • Water is wet.  
|                       | • Clouds look fluffy.  
| Water Play:           | • Provide your child with toys for pouring, dumping, and filling in a shallow amount of water (bath toys or sand toys work well as do measuring cups!).  
|                       | • Encourage your child to explore the water using these toys.  
|                       | • Water play can be done indoors (in the bathtub) or outside in a shallow pan or bowl if the weather is nice.  
| Cotton Ball Clouds:   | • Use cotton balls (or something else fluffy you have on hand) to create clouds. Help your child put cotton balls together to create clouds of different shapes and sizes.  
|                       | • Discuss what the clouds look and feel like. Use words like fluffy and white.  
|                       | • If possible, create these clouds while looking at clouds. Try to create clouds that look like those that you see in the sky.  
| Full Steam Ahead:     | • Investigate the mist and steam that rises from a cool mist humidifier. (If you don’t have a humidifier available, invite your child to explore steam in the bathroom after a hot shower.)  
|                       | • Allow children to feel the mist.  
|                       | • Discuss how it feels wet on our hands, and connect this mist with water and rain, which also feels wet.
| Listen to Rain Sounds: | • Listen to a variety of rain sounds:  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bYZqnk1mgLk  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q76bMs-NwRk  
• Talk about what you hear and what the rain sounds like.  
• See if you can replicate the rain sounds you hear using objects found around your house.  
• Experiment with different items and compare the sounds to the rain sounds. |
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| Songs: | • Rain, Rain, Go Away  
• If All the Raindrops  
• Mr. Sun |
| Cloud Dough: | • Create baby safe cloud dough using rice cereal and coconut oil. The recipe and directions can be found here:  
https://lemonlimeadventures.com/baby-safe-cloud-dough/#_a5y_p=1590522  
• Discuss what the dough feels like and narrate what your child is doing with it. |
| Rainbow Experiment | • Create a rainbow by placing a clear glass in the sunlight by the window. Place a sheet of paper on the other side and see where the rainbow is projected.  
• Discuss the colors you see. Move the cup around and see how the rainbow adjusts and changes.  
• Revisit the experiment throughout the day to see how the rainbow has changed. You could take photos of it throughout the day to compare and see how it changes. |