

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.



Resources for families with young children.

Listen to Rain	Listen to a variety of rain sounds:
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.
Songs:	Rain, Rain, Go AwayIf All the RaindropsMr. Sun
Cloud Dough:	 Create baby safe cloud dough using rice cereal and coconut oil. The recipe and directions can be found her: https://lemonlimeadventures.com/babysafe-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.