



whatcom county
library system

Preschool Theme Kits

WEATHER



BOX CONTENTS

BOOKS

One Monday

Amy Huntington

Cloudy with a Chance of

Meatballs

Judi Barrett

Weather Words and What They

Mean

Gail Gibbons

Sun Dance, Water Dance

Jonathan London

The Wind Blew

Pat Hutchins

A Rainbow of My Own

(Book with CD)

Don Freeman

In the Rain with Baby Duck

Amy Hest

What Can You Do in the Rain?

Anna Grossnickle Hines

What Can You Do in the Sun?

Anna Grossnickle Hines

DVD

Sid the Science Kid: Weather

Kid Sid

TOY

Weather Magnet Set and

booklet

Childwood

ADULT RESOURCES

500 Five Minute Games

Jackie Silberg

ACTIVITY NOTEBOOK

BEYOND THE KITS

STORYTIME HANDBOOK

Welcome to the *Weather* Theme Kit. Our target age group is 2 to 5 year olds but we have included at least one board book for babies to use. All these books read aloud well, and there are activities, finger plays, and teacher guides to help you. Also, take a look at the general information sheet on the inside cover of this notebook. ENJOY!

Related Activities

-Fun and Games-

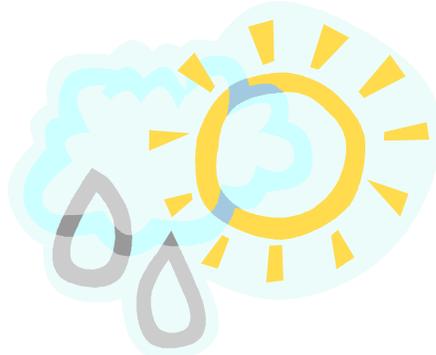
TODAY'S WEATHER

Have a daily weather report, using the magnet set included in this kit. Using a magnetic board, cookie sheet, or the refrigerator, pick a child to talk about the daily weather, putting up the right pieces showing weather and clothing choices. Be sure and use the activities included with the magnet set.

Alternative: Keep track of the weather by marking a calendar with symbols for the day's weather raindrops, cloud, etc.

WEATHER MURAL

After watching *Magic School Bus Kicks Up a Storm*, make a weather mural. Use a large piece of paper, or grocery bags taped together and divide it up into sections: sunny, rainy, cold, hot, cloudy. Let the children draw the weather and what people do in it. Discussion will generate ideas. You might want to work on one section at a time.



FOR YOU: a copy of these activities is available in back of this notebook.

WIND AND STORM ACTIVITIES **

After reading **A Rainbow of My Own**, make a rainbow windsock. Let children decorate a sheet of construction paper. Attach colored crepe paper streamers, then roll and staple the ends together. Attach a string by punching 2 holes in top.

Make a Chinese kite from a large, clear freezer bag. Let children decorate the outside of the bags with stickers and stars. Or decorate a separate sheet and put it inside the bag. Attach colored ribbon to the unopened end of the bag, for a tail. A short piece of kite string is attached, both ends, on the open edge of the bag. The children hold on to this and run with it, allowing the bag to fill up with air as they run.

For safety, use a small paper bag for children 2 and younger.

SUNNY DAY CRAFTS **

On a sunny day, let the children "pose" in the sunshine while another child or adult traces around their shadows. Then give the children colored chalk to color themselves.

To make ice cube paintings, sprinkle dry tempera paint or Koolaid on sheets of paper. Give each child an ice cube to drag through the colored powder and watch the pictures form!

The Whatcom County Library System's Hard Times project received a grant from the Office of the Secretary of State, Washington State Library as a part of the Renew Washington Project which is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

ADULT RESOURCE

500 Five Minute Games : Quick and Easy Activities for 3-6 Year Olds has a wealth of weather related activities, including a whole *Weather Games* chapter (p. 248-259). Try "Walking in the Weather" (p. 248):

Use this poem to develop children's vocabulary about the weather.

I went for a walk to school today,
I met the rain and what did it say?
Pitter, patter.

I went for a walk to school today,
I met the hail and what did it say?
Boing, boing.

Continue the poem using other weather conditions: wind, snow, hot sun, etc.

CLOTHES CONVERSATION from 500 Five Minute Games

Show the children three kinds of clothing, for example a boot, a heavy jacket and a bathing suit.

Show one article at a time and talk about why people wear it. Ask if they have ever been cold or wet and ask what kind of clothing they would like to put on.

DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

Collect children's and adult's clothing for all kinds of weather. Find swim suits and winter coats, mittens, boots, shorts, t-shirts, rain coats, umbrella, etc. Talk about the weather outside and the season of the year: winter, fall, spring or summer. Begin pulling out the clothes and have the children tell you what time of year they belong in.

You can put up four paper symbols (or other markers), representing different weather with a clothes basket or paper bag under each symbol. Then as you take out the clothes and discuss when they are worn, the children take turns putting them in the correct baskets. Be sure to have at least one item per child.

**Activities courtesy of the Early Childhood Office of the Seattle Public Library.*

***Used with permission from King County Library System.*

Weather Theme Kit

Questions or Suggestions:
Call the Youth Services Dept.
at 360 384-3150

-Fingerplays and Action Rhymes-

WINDS

Hold up five fingers. Starting with the thumb, bend them down one by one.

This little wind blows silver rain.
This little wind drifts snow.
This little wind sings a
Whistled tune.
This little wind croons low.
And this little wind rocks baby birds
Gently to and fro.
Rock hands

THE STORM**

The storm came up so very quick,
It couldn't have been quicker.
I should have brought my hat along,
I should have brought my slicker.
My hair is wet, my feet are wet,
I couldn't be much wetter
I fell into a river once,
But this is even wetter!

YOU CAN BE A SNOWMAN

Suit actions to words.

Now I am a snowman
Standing on the lawn.
I melt and melt and melt
And pretty soon I'm gone!



Make Snow! **

Cover a work surface with a plastic tarp or tablecloth.
Mix 2 cups cornstarch with 1 1/2 cups water in a large bowl. You may need to add a few more drops of water. This mixture has an interesting consistency to work with. Let the children experiment, using their hands, paper cups, and plastic spoons

ON A RAINY DAY *

To tune of Mulberry Bush

What can we do on a rainy day?
A rainy day, a rainy day?
What can we do on a rainy day?
When we stay inside?
Talk about rainy day activities

What can we do on a sunny day...
when we play outside?
What can we do on a snowy day...
What can we do on a windy day...

Point to sky
Shake head side to side
Place flat palm on top of head
Touch hands to chest
Point to hair and feet
Shake head side to side
Diving motion with hands
Swipe hands down arms.

LITTLE LEAVES

Fingerplay or full body action rhyme.

The little leaves are falling down,
Hold hands above head, bringing them down in a rolling motion.
Round and round, round and round.
The little leaves are falling down,
Falling to the ground.
Hands or body fall gently to floor.

BOOM, BANG!

Boom, bang, Boom, bang
Clap hands
Rumpety, lumpety, bump!
Beat thighs
Zoom, zam, zoom, zam!
Cut hands back and forth.
Clippety, clappety, clump!
Clap hands in rhythm.
Rustles and bustles
Nod head, side to side.
And swishes and zings!
Sway body.
What wonderful noises
A thunderstorm brings!
May want to repeat all the motions.

How You Can Help

- Use and return kits promptly so that they are available for others.
- Please check box contents before returning.
- Do not use the book drop. Please return kits inside an open library.