

What Is the Weather? · Conversation & classroom guide

Learning with a grown-up · Ages 4–8 · Flexible participation

What is the weather like here, now?

Learning aim: Use observed clues to describe weather, including overlapping conditions.

A five-minute conversation

Read the weather words and ask your child to point to a matching clue. Then compare the poster with what you can safely observe from indoors. Weather describes the air and sky here and now, and it can change. Welcome more than one answer when conditions overlap, such as wind and rain.

Remember: We found clouds and falling water in the cycle. Which weather clues can we actually notice here today?

Start here: Choose one weather word that matches a safe window view.

Explore further: Give evidence for two weather words that can fit the same observation.

What clues show rainy weather?

Answer cue: Water drops falling from clouds.

Can two weather words fit the same day?

Answer cue: Yes—for example, windy and rainy.

What weather clues can you notice from the window?

Answer cue: Accept what is visible now; it may differ from the poster.

Keep the idea clear

The poster is for observing and naming weather, not forecasting it. Stay indoors during dangerous weather.

Try: Make a three-visit weather record

Materials: The poster and an adult; optional paper and drawing materials. Describing or pointing is enough.

1. Choose a safe indoor window or an adult's description of the local weather.
2. Record the date, time and one sky or plant-movement clue. More than one weather word may fit.
3. Repeat on two later days and compare actual observations rather than predicting from the poster.

What this can show: A record might show change or similarity. The five examples are not a forecast or an exhaustive list of weather.

Return to it: Which condition changed across your visits, and which appeared more than once?

What Is the Weather? · In the classroom

A 20-minute classroom lesson

Prepare: Read the poster, answer cues and misconception note. Prepare only the materials named in the activity; keep a picture-only or described option available.

Words to explore

weather — What the air and sky are like at a place and time.

wind — Moving air.

3 min · Reconnect and wonder: What is the weather like here, now? Invite an initial idea; record it without marking it right or wrong.

4 min · Look together: Choose one weather word that matches a safe window view. Introduce weather using the poster.

8 min · Investigate or represent: Use “Make a three-visit weather record.” Let pairs take turns noticing and recording, with adult help and the activity’s stated boundaries.

5 min · Explain and return: Ask the core check: What is the weather like here, now? Accept pointing, words, signing or a drawing. If the learner is ready, offer this optional extension: Give evidence for two weather words that can fit the same observation.

Understanding check: What is the weather like here, now?

Answer guidance: Accept the child’s actual evidence, such as raindrops or moving leaves, matched to an appropriate weather word. More than one condition can occur together. A record might show change or similarity. The five examples are not a forecast or an exhaustive list of weather.

Accept pointing, speech, signing, a drawing or adult dictation. Describe the illustration and use labels/position as well as color. Offer one contrast first, and use the extension when the learner is ready.

A response to keep

My idea or question

What I noticed (date/time if useful)

What I think now / my next question

<https://kiddos.ai/learn/learning-with-gina-and-ollie/weather>

Related story: Where Did My Water Go? — Follow Gina and Ollie’s water question, then connect the story to the water you notice.

Our discovery record

Use words, marks, a drawing or an adult's notes. Keep this page with you; nothing needs to be uploaded.

Date / time (if useful): _____

My question or idea

What I noticed

What I think now

What I want to explore next

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