



Science
Age 2-5

Cloud gazing

- Understanding the world around us



Overview

This simple activity will encourage observation and create a connection with the world around us. It helps develop imagination and creativity, while also allowing time for some mindful relaxation.

Resources

- A blue sky with clouds
- An open, comfortable space to lie
- A rug or tarpaulin to lie on if the ground is damp

Activity

1. Choose a day when you will be relaxed lying on the ground looking up at the sky.
2. Find a comfortable outdoor spot to lie down in.
3. Look at the clouds in the sky.
4. Discuss what you can see and what the clouds make you think of e.g. Can you see a face? A fairy-tale castle? An animal?
5. Discuss how everyone has different interpretations of what they can see.

Suggested outcomes for learning and play

We understand you will tailor this activity to the learning needs of your pupils. Here are some of the learning outcomes and extension ideas that other practitioners have used this lesson idea to reach:

- To spend time in nature
- To begin to explore weather patterns and the natural world
- To use imaginative and descriptive language

Suggested outcomes for learning and play (cont.)

Subject	Topic	Ideas for further exploration
Science	Weather	Start to research different types of clouds and what their shape and colour might mean
Art	Sticking and cutting	Create some fluffy cloud artwork using cotton wool or natural materials
Literacy and language	Descriptive language	Use vocabulary to describe what you can see
	Storytelling	Make up stories to link together the different things you can see in the clouds
Maths	Number	Count how many clouds you can see and discuss sizes (bigger/smaller etc)
	Shape	Look for different shapes in the clouds and discuss properties of shapes

If you would like to develop your outdoor learning knowledge and skills, take a look at our range of training courses: ltdl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training