



Geography
Age 7-9

Weather predictions

- Weather and climate



Learning
through
Landscapes

Overview

This activity uses nature and animals to give us clues about the weather types that are on their way. By using some of these hints, you can start to collect data, make observations and predict what weather is coming to you next.

Resources

- An open, comfortable space to observe the weather and environment
- Clipboards/whiteboards and pens

Activity

1. Discuss what a weather forecast is and look at examples.
2. Ask pupils to predict what weather conditions there may be at their school tomorrow, and over the next few days, based on what the weather is like now.
3. Share the natural weather prediction tips on the page below.
4. Find a comfortable spot to sit/lie in outside and make some environmental observations.
5. Ask pupils to redo their weather forecast now they have this new information.
6. Check the predictions the next day to see if any predictions were correct.

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 make predictions
- To explore weather patterns and the natural world
- To collect and interpret data

Subject area	Topic	Ideas for further exploration
Geography	Weather	Research different weather types and how they are really predicted
Computing	Film	Create a digital or online forecast
Maths	Number/data collection	Use mathematical features to describe the observations you make e.g. shape of pinecones or clouds, how many birds etc.
Art	Number/data collection	Sketch the observations that you make, e.g. pinecones, rainbows, clouds
Drama	Role play	Act out a weather forecast show
Literacy and language	Script writing	Write a script for a weather forecast
	Poetry	Write poems about the natural observations you make

If you would like to develop your outdoor learning knowledge and skills, take a look at our range of training courses: [ltl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training](https://www.ltl.org.uk/outdoor-learning-training)

Clouds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cloud cover on a winter's night will trap heat and bring warmer weather • High, white cirrus clouds show good weather, but dark, heavy ones mean rain • Easterly winds indicate a storm's coming
Animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birds fly high in the sky in fair weather • Animals get quiet just before rain • Birds roosting on power lines shows a drop in air pressure and storms coming • Cows will lie down before wet weather
Rainbows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rainbows in the west mean moisture is in the air and rain is on its way • In the east or at sunset mean the rain's over and dry weather is coming
Nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wet, dewy grass indicates a dry day • Flowers smell strongest before rain as they release gasses in low pressure • Pinecones stay closed in humid weather • Trees' leaves curl up in high humidity
The moon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reddish moon shows there's dust in the air and dry weather will follow • A bright moon means low pressure has cleared the dust and rain will fall • A ring around it suggests rain is due too



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