

Spring into Action Activity Cards

Weather Forecast

Before you venture outside find out the weather forecast for the day. Check the radio, the news or a weather app.

What have they predicted for:

-  the temperature,
-  wind speed and direction,
-  cloud cover and the chance of rain.

Throughout the day, whenever you are outside, talk about or record your weather observations.

How accurate was the forecast?

The Rain

Pull on your wellies and find a puddle!

While you are out, think about....

-  the sound of the rain on different surfaces,
-  the smell of the rain,
-  how the rain changes the feel of grass verges, roads and pavements,
-  where puddles form.

Is your journey different in the rain?

Remember to think about a safe route and don't cross the road with your hood up.

Cloud Spotting

-  Look at the clouds during the day, do they change? Does the weather change too?
-  Can you spot any funny shapes in the clouds? Maybe you could take a photo or draw them.
-  Tell a story about the clouds, use the shapes and movement to inspire you.
-  Research the different types of clouds and learn their names.

Weather Behaviour

Does the weather change behaviour?

-  Do you see more or fewer people walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling when it is wet or dry, cold or warm?
-  What do people wear and take with them when they go out in the rain, the wind and the sun?
-  What about animal behaviour, do you notice more, or less birds and bugs when you are out in the rain?
-  Think of three positive reasons to still travel actively in all types of weather.

Rainbows

-  Do you know what weather conditions cause a rainbow to form?
-  Will you see one today?
-  A rainbow has seven colours, if you know them, say or sing them out loud.
-  Now go exploring and try to find something in nature for each colour of the rainbow.

Weather Report

Take on the role of an outside weather presenter and tell your family or friends what the weather is like today.

You could give them a live update while out on a walk, wheel or scoot. Or perhaps, if you have a recording device available, record your report.

You will need to give details about how the temperature feels, the speed and direction of the wind, and if it is raining, sunny or cloudy.

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The Wind

While you are out, think about....

- ☞ what direction is the wind moving?
- ☞ is the wind always moving in the same direction?
- ☞ does the sound of the wind change?
- ☞ what effect is the wind having on the trees, the birds or on you?

Take a piece of thread with you and tie a leaf to it. Notice how the wind makes it move. Does the thread move the same way without the leaf attached?

Weather Power

Energy harnessed from the wind and sun provide us with a great renewable source of electricity.

While wind turbines might be harder to spot in your local area, solar panels are often more visible. Next time you're out, see how many houses, buildings or fields you spot with them installed.

Solar energy is more widespread now, how many do you think you'll find?

The Sun

Next time you are out walking, wheeling, scooting or cycling on a sunnier day find some shade and think about....

- ☼ Is the shade always there?
- ☼ What is creating the shade?
- ☼ When you aren't in the shade, can you see your shadow? Why does the length and direction of your shadow change?
- ☼ Can you make some shadow shapes? Try making some letters with your arms, legs and body or some animals with your hands.

Weather Hunt

Go on a weather hunt, can you spot any of these? You can add your own too!

Wellington boot	☐	Sunglasses	☐
Puddle	☐	Shadow	☐
Umbrella	☐	Sun	☐
Cloud	☐	Solar panel	☐
Muddy footprint	☐	Wind vane	☐
Something being moved by the wind	☐		☐
Something that needs the rain	☐		☐
_____	☐		☐
_____	☐		☐

Weather Crafts

Find an outside space for these activities.

- ☞ On a rainy day, use washable paint to make a picture on paper or card. Let the rain splash the picture to create unique patterns.
- ☞ On a windy day, attach fabric, paper or leaves to sticks, string or hoops. Hold on to it and watch how it moves.
- ☞ On a sunny day, use chalk to draw around interesting shadows on paths, patios or playgrounds. Do the shadows stay in the drawing for long?

Weather Facts

Share some fun facts on your active journey.

- ? The coldest temperature ever officially recorded was -89.2°C. *Brrrr!*
- ? In 2003, a European heatwave turned grapes to raisins on the vine!
- ? In 1684, it was so cold the River Thames froze solid for two months.
- ? Right now, nearly 2,000 thunderstorms are in progress over the earth's surface.
- ? Lightning strikes the earth 100 times each second.