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4-Part **SERIES**

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film ideas, Inc.

308 North Wolf Rd. Wheeling, IL 60090

TEL: 1-800-475-3456 or 847-419-0255

FAX: 847-419-8933 E-MAIL: filmid@ais.net

WEB SITE: www.filmideas.com

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Presents

CLOUDS

NATURE'S SPRINKLERS



Naturally Nature

4-Part Series for **kids**

INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

INTRODUCTION TO SERIES

Naturally Nature is a fascinating 4-part series for young children carefully crafted to bridge the gap between a child's play and introductory science. By focusing upon the setting where children play and then gradually highlighting the underlying natural science, this introductory series completes an important next step in a child's introduction to social studies and science.

As a complementary device with each video, an instructional guide suggests exercises to help teachers, parents and students. These interactive exercises will reinforce and further develop a child's level of comprehension about the importance of nature and the joy of learning science.

The instructional guide provides:

Child-friendly **exercises!** ✓

Fun-to-do **follow-up activities!** ✓

Easy-to-learn **reinforcement lessons!** ✓

Permission granted to copy the exercises provided in this guide. For educational use ONLY.

The picture below shows water drops which exist in a cloud. When the water drops begin to cool they bunch together to create one BIG drop – a raindrop. A raindrop is too heavy to stay in a cloud so depending on air temperature, it falls to the ground as three different things.



On the solid black line, write the thing shown in the picture that falls from clouds and sprinkles the ground.







Reinforcement Lessons:

Lesson #1: Like the children in the video, discuss why rain produced by clouds is healthy for the earth e.g. helps plants (crops) grow, provides water for us to drink, nourishes the ecosystems in lakes, rivers, and oceans .

Lesson #2: Assemble the children to go outside and observe cloud formations. What kind of clouds are present; stratus, cumulus or cirrus. What shapes do the clouds resemble rabbit, bird, etc. If possible, use a binocular(s), to have the children view the clouds. **Teacher's Note:** Remind the children to **NEVER look directly into the sun** because it can cause damage to their eyes !

Lesson #3: Together as a class, review a recent recorded video from a weather forecast on the local news channel (or use the weather section of your daily local newspaper). Then, discuss with the children how clouds effect the local weather conditions as mentioned in the forecast. Perhaps monitor weather forecast over several days to observe how clouds and your local weather conditions change.



Many kids enjoy a nice warm, sunny day...but clouds are important, too. They add variety to our days and motivate us to find shapes in their ever changing forms. In the natural nature of things, these high flying puffs carry the moisture needed to sprinkle the thirsty life below assuring continued growth for all plants and animals.

Program Objectives

After viewing the program, children should understand:

- what clouds are & the role they play in the natural nature of earth.
- the different kinds of clouds.
- a working vocabulary (keywords) associated with clouds.
- what clouds are made of.

Keywords: Teacher's Note: Before assigning the following exercises discuss with the children these definitions for keywords:

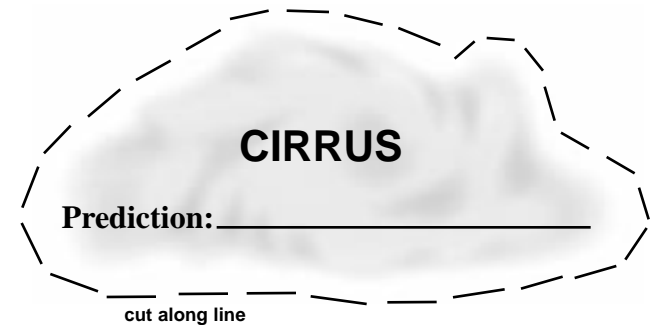
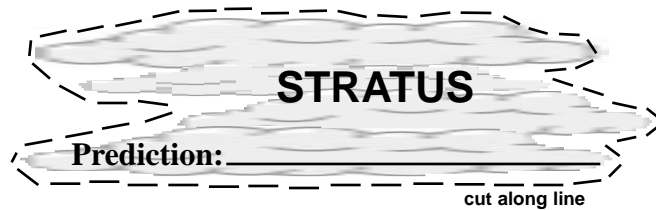
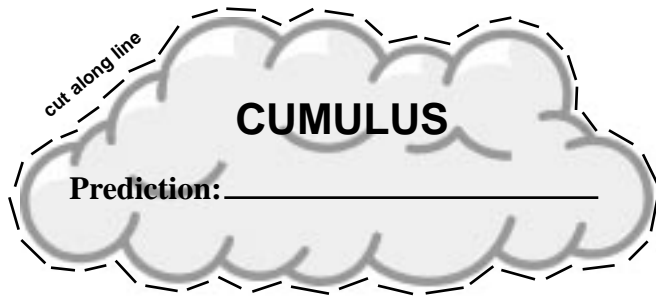
- **CIRRUS:** Thin, feathery, wispy clouds that are usually very high in the sky resulting in both sunny and overcast weather.
- **CLOUDS:** Visible particles of ice and water which float in the air above the ground. Clouds produce rain, snow, or sleet depending on the air temperature. By effecting weather conditions, clouds help to nourish life below assuring continued growth for all plants and animals.
- **CUMULUS:** Puffy, cottony clouds. These clouds can produce both sunny and stormy weather conditions.
- **FOG:** Clouds forming on or close to the ground.
- **RAINDROPS:** As a million water droplets cool off, they bunch together to form one raindrop. A raindrop is too heavy to stay in a cloud, so it falls to the ground sprinkling the earth in the form of rain, sleet, or snow.
- **SLEET:** When the air temperature is slightly cold clouds produce rain and snow mixed together.
- **SNOW / HAIL:** When the air temperature is very cold, raindrops falling from clouds freeze on their way down to the ground and change into snow or hail.
- **STRATUS:** Lowest layers of clouds in the atmosphere. Stretched-out, layered clouds resulting in dull overcast weather.
- **WATER VAPOR:** Water from the earth rises into the air. This water comes from oceans, rivers, lakes, plants and trees. As the water rises, it's invisible (water vapor), but as the water vapor becomes cool enough, the water droplets come together to form visible clouds.

Follow-Up Activities:

- 1) Ask a meteorologist to visit your school to discuss the importance of clouds and how clouds effect local and worldwide weather patterns .
- 2) During a rainy, snowy, or sleety day ask the children to capture water drops in a glass jar. Then measure the amount to calculate how much precipitation your local area received and/or view the water under a microscope(s) to observe its contents. Explain to the children about the process of water vapor and how depending on air temperature water changes from rain to snow/hail or sleet.
- 3) Visit a local science museum or weather observatory to reinforce the information in the video and further educate the children about the importance of clouds.

Exercise #4:

Play the “Weather Game”. Have the children go outside to predict the weather by looking at the clouds. Then cut out the cloud which best represents the clouds seen outside and write the prediction; rain, snow, sunny, cloudy (overcast) on the cloud. Perhaps have the children explain their predictions.



Exercise #1:

Circle the word describing what clouds are made of:

- Feathers
- Smoke
- Water

Place an **X** in the box to indicate 3 different kinds of clouds:

- Rain Air Wind
- Stratus Cumulus Cirrus
- Fog Tornado Snow

Depending how cold the air is, water droplets produced in clouds fall to the ground in the form of: CIRCLE one of the following:

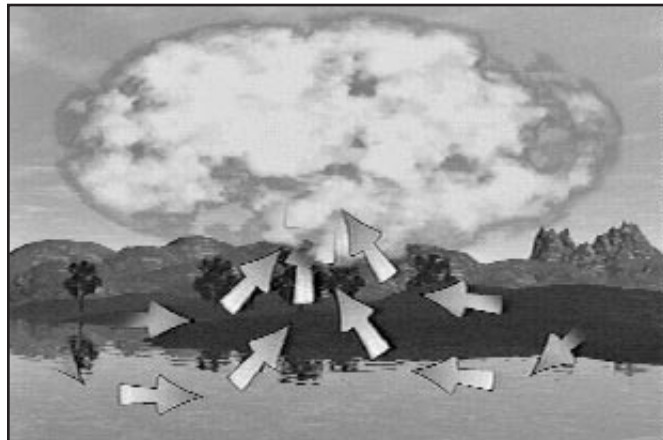
- 1) Raindrops, Snow/Hail, Sleet
- 2) Leaves, Dirt, Paper
- 3) Feathers, Air, Grass

Exercise #2:

Water from the earth rises into the air. This water comes from oceans, rivers, lakes, plants and trees. As the water rises its invisible, but as the water becomes cool enough, the water droplets come together to form visible clouds. On the solid black line, write the keyword from the words list which is involved with this process.

Words List:

- Thunderstorm
- Water Vapor
- Tornado
- Pollution



Exercise #3:

Below are some keywords and their definitions as discussed in the video. Match the keyword with its definition by writing the number in the box. *Follow the Example Shown.* **Teacher's Note:** before circulating handouts for this exercise discuss the definitions for these keywords (Pg. 2 of this guide).

Keywords:

example • cumulus

• fog

• clouds

• raindrop

Definitions

1) visible particles of ice and water which float in the air above the ground. They produce rain, snow, or sleet depending on the air temperature. By effecting weather conditions, they help to nourish life below assuring continued growth for all plants and animals.

2) puffy, cotton like clouds. These clouds can produce both sunny and stormy weather conditions.

3) as a million water droplets cool off, they bunch together to form one of these and then it falls to the ground.

4) clouds forming on or close to the ground.