

PRE-VISIT ACTIVITY

Water Cycle in a Baggie

This experiment allows your students to see the water cycle close-up.

What you need:

Small paper or plastic cup
Zipper-seal baggie
Tape
Water

Steps:

- 1.) Place a small amount of water in the cup.
- 2.) Put the cup in the baggie and seal it.
- 3.) Tape the baggie to a window that receives sunlight. (Alternatively, if you don't have access to a window, you could use a desk lamp).



What happens?

The water from the cup will gradually evaporate, turning into a gas that you cannot see. Then, as it cools, it condenses into water droplets which appear on the inside of the baggie.

You and your students have just observed the water cycle. Heat from the sun evaporates water from streams, ponds, lakes—even the ocean. The vapor rises into the atmosphere. Depending on weather conditions, water molecules will combine with tiny particles of dust, salt, and smoke in the air to form cloud droplets, which grow and develop into clouds. This process occurs higher in the sky where the air is cooler and more condensation occurs relative to evaporation. As water droplets combine (also known as coalescence) with each other, and grow in size, clouds develop, and precipitation may occur.

Credit: www.weatherwizkids.com & <http://water.usgs.gov/edu/>

AFTER-VISIT ACTIVITY

Weather Wonders Word Search

Answer the questions below to find the words (horizontal, vertical and diagonal).

F R O N T T I C G R G C A X P
 W Q Z D A V P U H Y V D P E R
 T I M Y T A T M O S P H E R E
 S H E Z G N I U E W A I R S C
 W E E O P E L L A D Q O N U I
 E B A R R C N U D S Y O V N P
 A F D S M E A S T R A T U S I
 T G V O O O A Q X Z R I H S T
 H B O R U N M I Z O E G K O A
 E A R T H D S E B W G C X P T
 R F L U H F W A T E R X Z Q I
 F V U Y P I H E P E Q L P N O
 D C L I M A T E V X R Z D Y N

1. We call the condition of the atmosphere at a certain place and time _____.
2. An instrument that measures temperature is called a _____.
3. Four factors that influence our weather are:

4. When a high pressure and a low pressure meet, they form a _____.

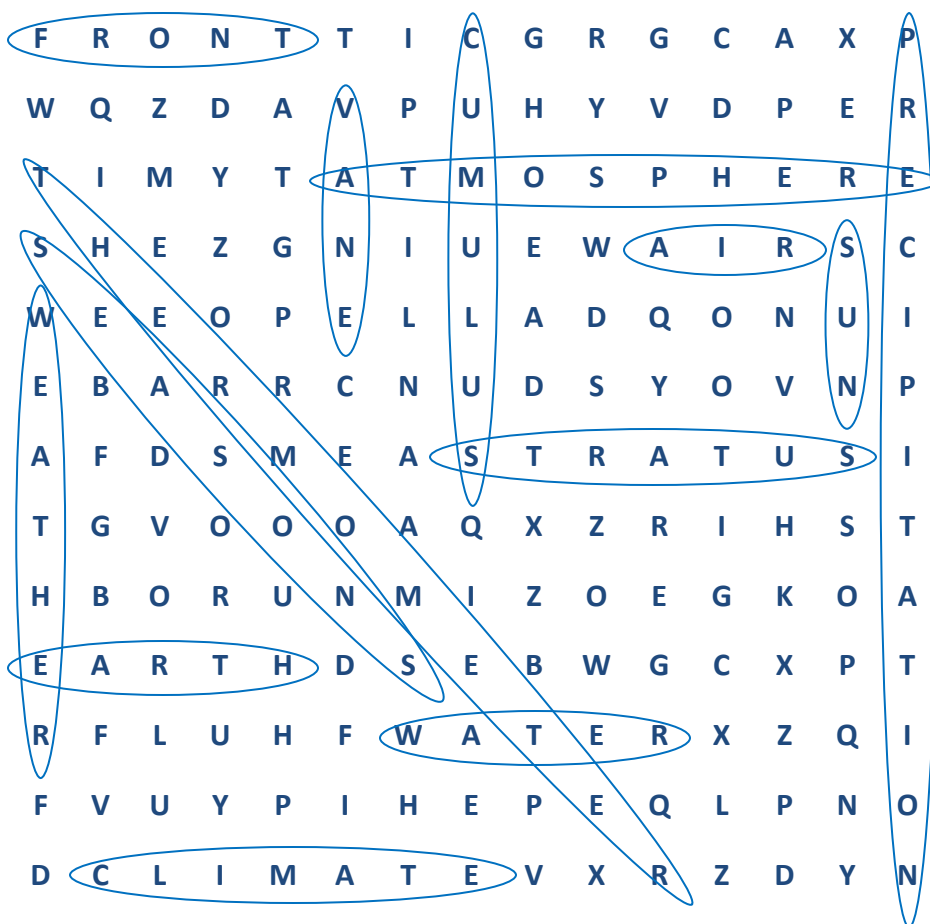
5. _____ clouds look like fluffy cotton.
6. _____ clouds look like sheets covering the sky.
7. _____ is the average weather in a place over a long time.
8. Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall are _____ of the year.
9. _____ is the word for the air around the Earth.
10. Snow, rain, and hail are three types of _____.



AFTER-VISIT ACTIVITY

Weather Wonders Word Search

Answer the questions below to find the words (horizontal, vertical and diagonal).



1. We call the condition of the atmosphere at a certain place and time weather.
2. An instrument that measures temperature is called a thermometer.
3. Four factors that influence our weather are:
 - Earth
 - sun
 - water
 - air
4. When a high pressure and a low pressure meet, they form a front.

5. Cumulus clouds look like fluffy cotton.
6. Stratus clouds look like sheets covering the sky.
7. Climate is the average weather in a place over a long time.
8. Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall are seasons of the year.
9. Atmosphere is the word for the air around the Earth.
10. Snow, rain, and hail are three types of precipitation.

