

Farming and Weather

Grade Level(s)

PreK and KG

Estimated Time

30 minutes

Purpose

Students will learn about weather patterns and how weather affects farming and everyday life

Materials

- Website- www.linncoag.com- virtual 2020/21- April
- Instructional video: [Weather Tracker - YouTube](#)
- https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nKvirv7tBfgXntYM_O1Bh5yBot049hsp?usp=sharing
- Book: Farming by Gail Gibbons
- Rain Cloud Activity
 - Clear jar/cup
 - Water
 - Shaving cream
 - Food coloring
- Weather and Farming Worksheet
- Be a Weather Watcher Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uo8lbeVVb4M>
- Weather Tracker Worksheet

Vocabulary

Weather: state of the atmosphere at a place and time as regards to heat, dryness, sunshine, wind, rain, etc.

Meteorologist: an expert in weather forecasting

Drought: no rain for a long period of time

Background - Agricultural Connections

Students will be introduced to weather and how it affects everything around us, including agriculture. They will learn how to distinguish different types of weather, work on their writing and creativity, as well as make connections to weather and crop growth.

Interest Approach – Engagement

- Ask the students to list different types of weather.
-Snow, sun, rain, wind, ice, and hail

Procedures

1. Watch the instructional video

2. Read the book “Farming” and ask the students to brainstorm how farming changed with each season.
3. Pass out activity materials or lead the activity in front of the class
 - Add water to the clear cup or jar
 - Add a pile of shaving cream on top of the water
 - Add a few drops of food coloring to the top of the shaving cream
 - Watch the cloud rain!
4. Discuss with students how rain, as shown in the activity, comes from clouds and will water plants.
5. Display the weather informational sheet and discuss how each type of weather affects farming.
 - Rain: Rain is important in helping plants grow. Too much rain can wash seeds or soil away. Rain can also cause mold.
 - Sun: Plants need sun to photosynthesis but too much sun can cause the plants to dry out.
 - Wind: Wind helps plants capture food and nutrients. Wind improves stem strength but too much can damage the crop.
 - Storms: High winds and hail can break or damage the crop.
6. Watch the ‘Be a Weather Watcher’ video.
7. Distribute the weather tracker worksheet and explain for students to track the weather for the rest of the week. Hold a classroom discussion following their observations. What kind of weather did they record and how might it affect farming?

Organization Affiliation

Paige, Linn County Farm Bureau Education Outreach

Agriculture Literacy Outcomes

T1.K-2.D Provide examples of how weather patterns affect plant and animal growth for food.

Iowa/ Common Core Standards

K-ESS2-1. Use and share observations of local weather conditions to describe patterns over time.

K-ESS3-2. Ask questions to obtain information about the purpose of weather forecasting to prepare for and respond to severe weather.