

Weather



A weather chart

Learning objectives: to recognize and name different weather types; to look closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change in weather.

What you need

A piece of A1 stiff board; brightly-coloured craft paper; sticky Velcro pads; white and brightly-coloured card; a marker pen; the photocopiable sheet on page 74 copied onto brightly-coloured paper; books such as *Mr Wolf's Week* by Colin Hawkins (Heinemann Young Books) and *Weather Watch* in the *I Can Help* series (Franklin Watts).

What to do

Start by printing the words 'Today is' on the computer and positioning the words on the board. Leave space to fit in the day of the week after it. Underneath add the words 'The weather is' and a space for a description of the weather. Print the days of the week and words to describe the weather with pictures onto separate rectangles of brightly-coloured card. Laminate the cards to protect them and to extend the life of your weather chart.

Use the photocopiable sheet to make weather symbols and add these to the corners of the chart.

Encourage the children to sing the following rhyme to the tune of 'Aiken Drum' when carrying out the activity.

'How is the weather, the weather, the weather,

How is the weather outside today?'

Teach the children the weather song and explain that each child will have a turn to fill in the weather chart. Go through the words describing the weather. Can the children tell you the sort of weather that each represents? Ask them what the weather is like today and which of the word cards best represents it.

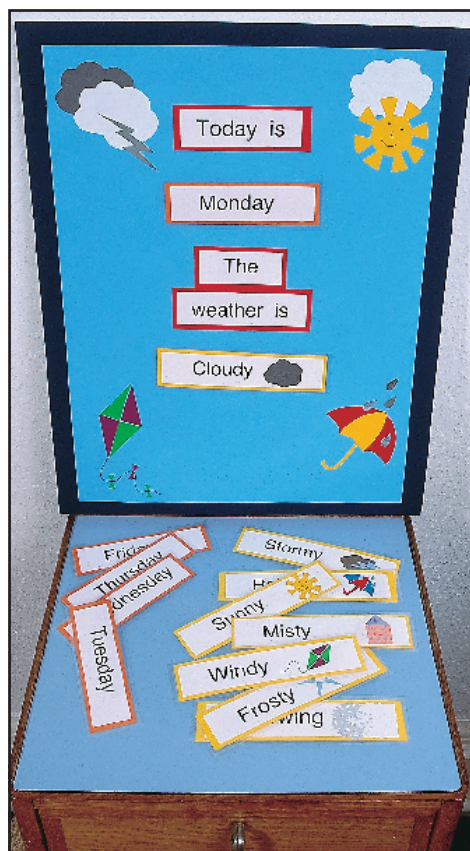
Use the chart to reinforce naming and sequencing the days of the week, morning and afternoon and to develop descriptive language. Let the children take turns to fill in the weather chart.

Talk about

- Discuss different types of weather.
- Talk about how the weather changes with the seasons.
- Ask the children which kind of weather they like best and why.

Home links

- Encourage parents to watch the weather forecast on television with their children to see the weather symbols that are used.
- Suggest that parents make a simple weather chart at home with their children, using a piece of paper and drawing on the symbols.



Use the natural resource of weather to encourage the children to find out about the world around them. Take a look at all types of weather with these colourful displays and discover the effects it has on us every day.