

Weather Wonders

Post-Visit 2: Rain Clouds & Hurricanes!

Rain Cloud Weather Experiment: This STEM activity is a quick but fun way for students to learn how rain clouds form.

You will need:

- Shave cream
- Eye droppers
- Food coloring
- Vase or mason jar filled with water
- Extra bowl with water to mix food coloring in

Steps:

1. Squirt shave cream over vase or jar that is already filled with water. This will create the rain cloud!
2. In the extra bowl tint the water with any color of food coloring. Just make the color dark to see the rain cloud in action.
3. Use the eyedropper to squeeze the colored water into the shave cream. The cloud will begin to quickly fill up with the colored water or rain.
4. Keep adding the colored water to the shave cream cloud and watch the storm begin to take place!



Rain clouds are not light and fluffy. Clouds form from water vapor (think of steam from a boiling pot of water.) Adding drops to the shaving cream is similar to water vapor coming together in a cloud. When the vapor cools, it turns into a liquid (water), the rain cloud will become heavy and it rains. In this experiment, the drops of colored water make the shaving cream cloud heavy and it will fall through like rain!

Hurricane in a bowl: This simple activity is a wonderful way for students to see how a hurricane forms. After, learning about Typhoon Cobra and its impact on the *USS Alabama*, students can make their own hurricane!

You will need:

- Large bowls filled with water
- Spoons
- Food coloring (any color)

Steps:

1. Place spoon in bowl of water and stir the spoon in a circular motion around the side of the bowl until the water is moving quickly in the bowl.
2. Add drops of food coloring into the center of the water.
3. The color will move from the center of the bowl and form bands like clouds in a hurricane.



