

**Unit Name:** Weather

**What are we doing?** Observing the weather

**Purpose/Why?** Children will gain a greater understanding of weather by using observation skills and weather-related vocabulary to describe weather and use critical thinking skills to describe appropriate clothing and activities for various kinds of weather. Children will also work on patterning skills as they notice patterns in the weather over time.

**Materials**

**Provided:**

Thermometer

Master copies of the following: (Make copies as needed so each child has one)

- Weather calendar
- "Today's Weather"
- Thermometer
- White and red strips

**You will need to provide:** Scissors, tape, pencils, crayons, markers, scissors, and tape

**Books:**

"Rainy, Sunny, Blowy, Snowy: What Are Seasons" by Jane Brocket

"Cloudette" by Tom Lichtenheld

"Boom, Boom" by Sarvinder Naberhaus; illustrated by Margaret Chodos-Irvine



**Ask a Question**

- What is the weather like outside?
- What does the sky look like today?
- Is it cloudy or clear outside? How can you tell?
- How can we tell if the wind is blowing?
- How can it be cold even if the sun is out?

**Unit Name/Theme:** Weather



## Quick Start

Each day for a week...or for several weeks...have each child observe the weather, then mark the calendar with that day's weather. Simple symbols such as a sun, cloud, raindrop, snow, etc. will be best for this activity.



## Ask a Question

After a week look at the calendar with the children and discuss such things as:

- How many days were sunny? How many days were snowy? etc.
- What patterns do you see in the weather? (sunny, rainy, cloudy)
- How many more sunny days were there than rainy days this week?
- What do you think the weather will be like tomorrow? Why?



## Vocabulary Builder

- Cloudy
- Dew
- Drizzle
- Dry
- Fair
- Foggy
- Forecast
- Frost
- Graupel (snow pellets)
- Mist
- Overcast
- Partly cloudy
- Rain
- Sleet (snow and rain mix)
- Slush
- Snow
- Sun

## Unit Name/Theme: Weather



### Deeper Dive

Have each child complete "Today's Weather" by drawing pictures and "writing" about the weather. This includes what the weather is like outside (sunny, rainy); a picture of what you would wear outside today (hat, gloves); and also what activity you could do in this weather (sledding, play at the park). If the weather is basically the same everyday have an imaginary forecast for the day (if there have been several rainy days in a row, ask the children to pretend it was snowing outside, etc.)

Place the thermometer outside, but where it can easily be seen (not in direct sunlight). After an hour look at the thermometer together. Explain that the more red we see on the thermometer, the warmer it is or the less red we see the cooler it is.

Each child will make a paper thermometer. See instructions on the template that is provided.

Child will pull the red and white strip up or down to show the temperature outside. The words cold, cool, warm, and hot can be used instead of the degrees. This is much easier, especially when it comes to negative temperatures!



### Vocabulary Builder

- Hot
- Warm and warmer
- Cool and cooler
- Cold
- Temperature
- Thermometer
- Mild

# Weather Calendar

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>

# Today's Weather

Today is \_\_\_\_\_

<b>The weather outside looks like this</b>	<b>I could wear this outside today</b>	<b>I can do this activity outside today</b>

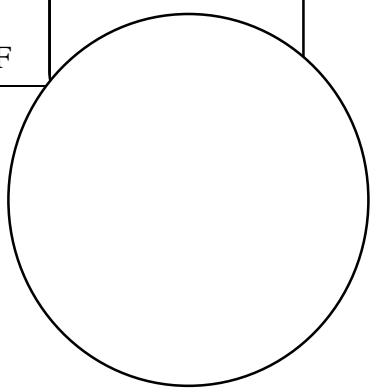
110° F
100° F
90° F
80° F
70° F
60° F
50° F
40° F
30° F
20° F
10° F
0° F
-10° F
-20° F
-30° F
-40° F

**Hot**

**Warm**

**Cool**

**Cold**



Copy onto white and red paper (each thermometer will need 1 red and 1 white strip)  
Tape one red strip and one white strip together, end to end. Cut a slit at the top of the thermometer. Cut a slit along the bottom of the thermometer (top of the circle). From behind, thread the white/red strip through the bottom slit, then through the top slit. Pull the paper so the red paper shows the temperature.

