

Name _____



Hands-On Activity

Explore online.

Observing Patterns in Weather

Materials



How does the weather change during a week?

Step 1

Observe the weather each day for a week.

Step 2



Draw to record the weather on the chart.

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Hands-On Activity Small Groups 30 min

Observing Patterns in Weather

3D Learning Objective

SEP Analyzing and Interpreting Data

Children explore patterns in changes in local weather conditions.

Suggested Materials If the classroom does not have a window, locate another room with a window, or find an outdoor place where children can observe the weather.

Preparation

You may choose to complete this activity as a whole group. Discuss as a class the weather symbols and how to use them to record weather observations.

Activity

STEP 1 Guide a discussion of the weather conditions each day for one week. Children’s observations should include temperature, precipitation, sunlight, and wind.

STEP 2 Discuss which weather symbols to use on their chart. Point out that children can use the symbols in the chart as evidence for a claim they may want to make at the end of the week. **Ask:** Why do we need to be careful to use the correct symbols? **If weather symbols aren’t correct, we won’t have good evidence for our claims.**

Collaboration

Think, Draw, Share Each day, have children draw a picture of the weather they observe. Children should label each picture with the day’s name. At the end of a week, have pairs compare their drawings with the weather chart.

Hands-On Activity, continued

STEP 3 Remind children a pattern is something that repeats. Have children underline the days that are part of a pattern. **Ask:** What is an example of a pattern? **Cloudy weather often comes before rainy weather.**

SEP Analyzing and Interpreting Data

Point out that children’s observations about the weather are their data. They can use their data to support claims about weather patterns. **Ask:** What pattern did we observe? **Responses depend on actual weather conditions.** **Ask:** What evidence do we have to support our claim? **Responses will vary, but should be consistent with the weather conditions recorded in the calendar.**

Claims, Evidence, and Reasoning

Children should make a claim that weather can change during a week. Their evidence is the different weather symbols in the chart. **Ask:** How would you find a pattern in the weather? **We would look for symbols that repeat over and over.**

Scoring Rubric for Hands-On Activity	
3	States a claim supported with evidence that weather changes during a week
2	States a claim somewhat supported with evidence that weather changes during a week
1	States a claim that is not supported by evidence
0	Does not state a claim and does not provide evidence

Step 3



Look at your chart. Tell about the weather patterns you observed.

Make a claim.

Sample answer: The weather can change during a week.

What is your evidence?

Answers may vary but children’s drawings should include weather symbols such as rainy, stormy, cloudy, sunny, windy, or snowy.