



the science of **MARCH**









MONTHLY LESSON PLANS

Thematic Science Activities For

RAINBOWS, CLOUDS, SPRING WEATHER & SPACE

By Cara Carroll & Abby Mullins

March At-a-Glance

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 RAINBOWS 	Vocabulary: color, interference colors, prism, facet, rainbow, arc, refraction, reflect		Science Skills: Matter & Energy; Light, Earth & Space; Scientific Investigation & Reasoning		
	Literacy Skills: adjectives, compare/contrast, order of events, expository writing		Math Skills: graphing, analyzing data; addition; comparing numbers		
	Suggested Books: Sky Colors, Raininbow, Light and Sound, Why Do We See Rainbows				
 CLOUDS 	Vocabulary: cloud, fog, cirrus clouds, cumulus clouds, stratus clouds, cumulonimbus clouds, atmosphere, sky		Science Skills: Matter & Energy; Earth & Space; Force/Motion/Energy; Scientific Investigation & Reasoning		
	Literacy Skills: Compare/Contrast; Comprehension; Nonfiction Text features; Adjectives;			Math Skill: number comparisons, greater than/less than, Estimation	
	Suggested Books: National Geographic Kids: Clouds; Clouds, Down Came the Rain; Little Cloud; It Looked Like Spilt Milk; Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs				
 WEATHER IN SPRING 	Vocabulary: freezing; Spring, rain, lightning, hail, tornado, wind, puddle, storm		Science Skills: Matter & Energy; Earth & Space Force, Motion, & Energy; Scientific Investigation & Reasoning		
	Literacy Skills: Compare/Contrast; Comprehension; Schema; Onomatopoeia, R-Controlled Vowels, ; Infer; ; Adjectives; Text-to-Self; Making Predictions; Alliteration;			Math Skills: addition, related facts, subtraction, balanced equations graphing, Odd & Even ;	
	Suggested Books: Weather in Spring; Tornadoes; It's Raining; Time for Kids: Storms; Storm Is Coming!				
 SUN, MOON, & STARS 	Vocabulary: moon, sun, stars, telescope, astronomer, constellation, crater, solar system		Science Skills: 5 Senses; Organisms & Environment; Matter & Energy; Earth & Space; Scientific Investigation & Reasoning		
	Literacy Skills: Compare/Contrast; Comprehension; Schema; Synonym/Antonym; Infer; Text-to-Self; Making Predictions, Compound Words; Synonyms & Antonyms; Long Vowels -oo		Math Skills: addition/subtraction; comparing numbers; place value; addition; graphing and surveys; odd/even; place value		
	Suggested Books: Day & Night Patterns in Nature, Stargazers, Our Stars, The Sun: Scholastic News; The Moon Book				

Notes & Reminders

RAINBOWS



DAY 1: Activities	Extension Activities	DAY 2: Activities	DAY 3: Activities	DAY 4: Activities	DAY 4: Activities
<p>VOCABULARY</p> <p>ANCHOR CHART</p> <p>SCIENCE ACTIVITY</p> <p>EXTENSIONS</p>	<p>PRISM REFRACTION</p> <p>Use the book <i>Rainbows</i> to help explain how prisms work. Afterward, complete this simple cut-and-paste diagram.</p> <p>SCIENCE ACTIVITY</p> <p>Give each student a small scoop of fruity loop cereal. Have them complete the corresponding activity sheet and enjoy a tasty treat!</p> <p>SCIENCE ACTIVITY</p>	<p>VOCABULARY</p> <p>SCIENCE ACTIVITY</p> <p>EXTENSION</p>	<p>VOCABULARY</p> <p>SCIENCE ACTIVITY</p> <p>EXTENSION</p>	<p>VOCABULARY</p> <p>SCIENCE</p>	<p>RAINBOW FACT BANNER</p> <p>MATERIALS: 3/8 inch ribbon, banner printable, crayons, hole punch</p> <p>DIRECTIONS: Write facts on banner pieces. Cut out. Hole punch top corners of each banner piece. String onto ribbon. Tie ends.</p>
DAY 5: Activities	EdL Extension	Science Activity	Show What You Know!	Math & Writing Extension	BONUS DAY: Activities
<p>VOCABULARY</p> <p>VOCABULARY</p> <p>MATH & WRITING EXTENSION</p>	<p>HOW TO MAKE A RAINBOW SEQUENCING ACTIVITY</p> <p>MATERIALS: activity sheet, crayons, markers, scissors, glue</p> <p>DIRECTIONS: Students will cut out cloud and rainbow rays. They will order the rays according to the steps to make a rainbow. Use the book <i>Rainbows</i> for assistance. Color the rays according to the color order of the rainbow.</p>	<p>RAINDROP REFLECTION DIAGRAM</p> <p>Use the book <i>Rainbows</i> to help explain how a raindrop reflects sunlight to produce the colors we see in a rainbow. Afterward, complete this simple cut-and-paste diagram.</p>	<p>RAINBOW PERSON</p> <p>Have each student complete a Rainbow Person using the included templates. Inside the flap, they should write a paragraph about what they learned throughout the week. Afterwards, have them share their paragraphs with their classmates. This is a great time to work on speaking and listening, too!</p>	<p>RAINBOW PARFAITS</p> <p>This is a fun way to celebrate a week of rainbow learning AND incorporate a little math and writing! You can make these parfaits as elaborate or as simple as you want by adding or omitting any of the ingredients listed below. It is kid-tested and approved! SO YUM!</p> <p>DIRECTIONS: Layer as much or as little of the following ingredients from the bottom to the top: sliced bananas, vanilla yogurt, fruit pebbles cereal, whipped topping, and a sprinkle of Fruity Pebbles cereal.</p> <p>After making them, complete the class poll and/or writing activity (2 versions included).</p>	<p>STEM INVESTIGATION</p> <p>ELA & ART EXTENSION</p>

CLOUDS



DAY 1: Activities	Daily Activities	DAY 2: Activities	Vocabulary	Science Activities	DAY 3: Activities
<p>VOCABULARY</p> <p>ANCHOR CHART</p> <p>DAILY ACTIVITIES</p> <p>MATH EXTENSION</p>	<p>DAILY CLOUD COLLECTOR</p> <p>Assemble a Cloud Collector booklet on the first day of the unit. Students can use the Cloud Classifier to help them identify the clouds they see each day of the unit.</p> <p>CLOUD CLASSIFIER</p> <p>2 versions of this Cloud Classifier are included - one with pictures and one without (so that students can illustrate the words). Cut out the center and use to locate clouds in the sky. Students can look through the center and then use it as a reference when identifying kinds of clouds.</p>	<p>VOCABULARY</p> <p>SCIENCE ACTIVITIES</p> <p>SCIENCE EXTENSION ACTIVITIES</p>	<p>CLOUDY VOCABULARY</p> <p>SCIENCE NOTEBOOK</p> <p>Give each student a <i>Cloudy with a Change of Vocabulary</i> cloud pocket to paste into their science notebook. Leave the top of the cloud open so that you can insert a set of vocabulary cards inside. Students can color/black/white cards.</p>	<p>SCIENCE ACTIVITIES</p> <p>WHAT'S IN A CLOUD NAME?</p> <p>This is "definitely" a more challenging activity, so I think teacher support is imperative. I would recommend completing this activity as a whole group.</p> <p>You will read in <i>Clouds</i> about the naming of clouds and that their names have meaning for their size, shape, and physical description. Introduce the provided anchor charts and discuss. Then, choose a cloud word card and help the students interpret its meaning using the charts.</p>	<p>VOCABULARY</p> <p>DAILY ACTIVITIES</p> <p>SCIENCE ACTIVITIES</p> <p>WRITING</p>
Science Activity	DAY 4: Activities	Science Discovery	Vocabulary & Comprehension	DAY 5: Activities	Cloud People
<p>CLOUD IN A JAR</p> <p>MATERIALS: glass jar with lid, aerosol hairspray, ice, 8.5 oz of boiling water (careless! it is about 2-3 minutes)</p> <p>ACTIVITY: TEACHER PARTICIPATION IS NEEDED WITH BOILING WATER! Follow the procedure found on page 10 of activity. Version 1 also includes an explanation of why clouds in a jar form. Version 2 allows students to be more participating in writing about and explaining the activity.</p>	<p>TRUE OR FALSE</p> <p>VOCABULARY</p> <p>COMPREHENSION</p> <p>SCIENCE ACTIVITIES</p> <p>WRITING</p>	<p>SCIENCE DISCOVERY</p> <p>MATERIALS: sponge, water, jar, dropper/squeezing bottle</p> <p>DIRECTIONS: This is a student-led activity where they will work in groups to design an investigation to show the relationship between clouds and rain using the given material.</p> <p>GOAL: Ultimately, you will want students to realize that the sponge can act as a "cloud" holding "rain" from the dropper/squeezing until it becomes saturated and "rains" into jar.</p>	<p>VOCABULARY & COMPREHENSION</p> <p>Either play as a whole group or in a small group, have students sort true and false statements beneath the correct cloud. This could be glued to chart paper, too!</p> <p>SOMETHING NEW I LEARNED</p> <p>I LOVE this book! It has a wealth of new knowledge that will add to your study. Have students complete a <i>Something New I Learned</i> Raindrop after reading.</p>	<p>DAY 5: ACTIVITIES</p> <p>MATH EXTENSION</p> <p>ART EXTENSION</p>	<p>CLOUD PEOPLE SAMPLE</p> <p>This activity is a spin off of the Cloud People that I made when I was teaching first grade! The picture on the left shows the display I made. Using the included templates, students can create their own Cloud People! Encourage them to cut the legs to size (i.e. a Cirrus Cloud Person would have longer legs than a Stratus Cloud Person since cirrus clouds are found higher in the sky!)</p> <p>MATERIALS: construction paper, templates, scissors, glue, scrapbook paper (optional)</p>



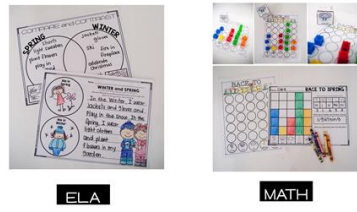
WEATHER IN SPRING



Week THREE, Day 1 Lesson Plan Activities



Week FOUR, Day 1 Extension Activities



Week THREE, Day 2 Lesson Plan Activities



Week THREE, Day 2 Extension Activities



Week THREE, Day 3 Lesson Plan Activities



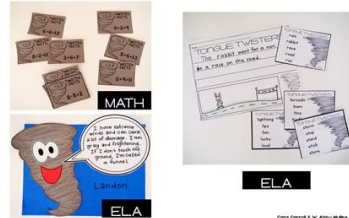
Week THREE, Day 3 Extension Activities



Week THREE, Day 4 Lesson Plan Activities



Week THREE, Day 4 Extension Activities



Week THREE, Day 5 Lesson Plan Activities



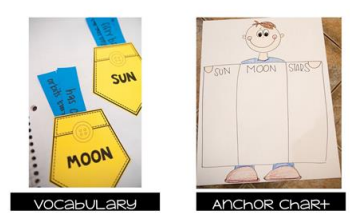
Week THREE, Day 5 Extension Activities



SUN, MOON, AND STARS



Week FOUR, Day 1 Lesson Plan Activities



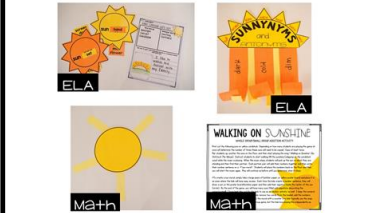
Week FOUR, Day 1 Extension Activity



Week FOUR, Day 2 Lesson Plan Activities



Week FOUR, Day 2 Extension Activities



Week FOUR, Day 3 Lesson Plan Activities



Week FOUR, Day 3 Extension Activities



Week FOUR, Day 4 Lesson Plan Activities



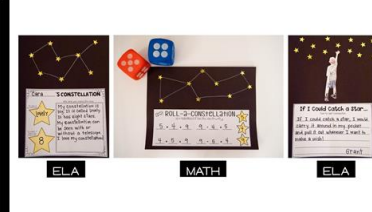
Week FOUR, Day 4 Extension Activities



Week FOUR, Day 5 Lesson Plan Activities

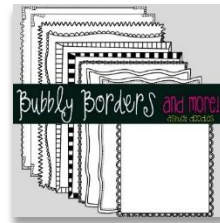
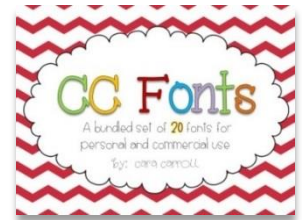
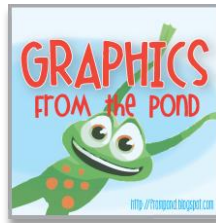


Week FOUR, Day 5 Extension Activities





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Thanks again and happy teaching!
Cara Carroll & Abby Mullins