



WORM WEATHER

BOOKMARK FOR STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

DID YOU KNOW READING BOOKS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT STEM LEARNING?

Reading with older toddlers and preschoolers uses **PEER**:

- Use additional Prompts if needed,
- Evaluate and
- Expand your child's answers, and
- Repeat the prompts.

ABOUT THIS BOOK



Worm Weather is a book written by Jean Taft and illustrated by Matt Hunt. This book uses simple rhyming to describe the **sounds** and **sights before, during, and after a thunderstorm**. Go outside in different **weather** and talk about what your child **notices**.

WHERE CAN I FIND THIS BOOK?

Search [YouTube](#), [BookShare](#), [Archive.org](#), and your local library.

ADAPTATIONS

STEMIE's tips for making adaptations to the storybook reading process

<https://stemie.fpg.unc.edu/resource/a-guide-to-book-adaptations/>

Scan the QR code to download or view online.



Expanding | Science

Worm Weather

By Jean Taft



Complete a sentence

Splish, splash. Sidewalk ____ (dash)!



Recall

"Why did the family go to a pizza place?" (It was storming outside.)



Open-ended questions

"What happens to the ground when it rains a lot?"



WH questions

"What do boots jump over?" (old tree stump)



Distancing questions

"What do you do when it storms?"

STEM Words & Ideas to Explore

- Worm
- Puddle
- Mud
- Drizzle
- Thunder
- Sun
- Rainbow





WORM WEATHER

ADAPTATIONS FOR STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different. Do what works best for encouraging your child's independent exploration during this suggested literacy activity. These are only suggested activity adaptations. Consider consulting your child's care team first.



Follow your child's lead and interests. Enthusiastically ask your child questions about what they are doing and what they like.



Answer your child's questions. If you do not know the answer, work together with your child to discover the answer.



Encourage your child to participate in the activity as much as possible. Praise your child's efforts and successes.

SUPPORT CHILDREN WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT, DEAF-BLINDNESS, OR MULTIPLE DISABILITIES:



Storybox:

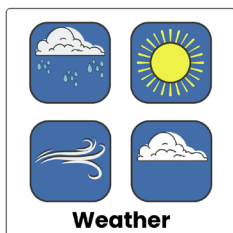
Select corresponding items and place them in a container or a box. Items may include:

- Clothing items
- Shoes
- Umbrella

This adaptation can also be used to:

- Increase children's attention and engagement
- Support children with sensory challenges

SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF COMMUNICATION:



Pictures, Symbols, Signs, or Icons:

- Select pictures that correspond to items, objects, or animals in the book
- Add signs and icons to the story
- Use pictures along with a communication board to support STEM learning

This adaptation can also be used to:

- Increase children's attention and engagement
- Support children's learning
- Support children who are deaf or have a hearing impairment



WORM WEATHER

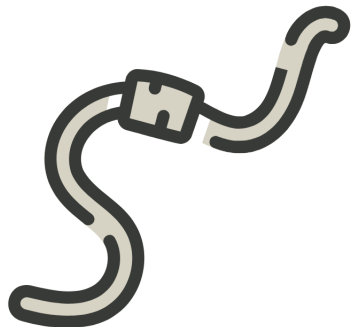
VISUAL CUES FOR STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

How To Use VISUAL CUES:

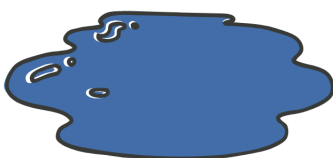
1. Print and cut out the images.
2. As you read, use tape or Velcro to attach the pictures to the corresponding pages in the book.

Check out STEMIE's tips for creating and using visual supports with

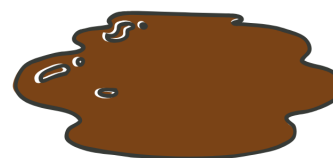
[A Guide to Visual Supports.](#)



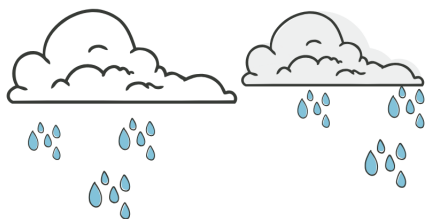
Worm



Puddle



Mud



Drizzle



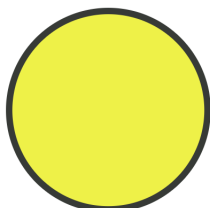
Clouds



Thunder



Rainbow



Sun



Need more visual cues?

Visit [STEMIE's Visual Cue Library.](#)



WORM WEATHER

ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

NOTICING THE WEATHER

Description: Help your child **observe and investigate the weather**, with their **senses**. Talk about **what to wear for the weather**.

What My Child Is Learning!

Children learn best by interacting with people and objects. Introduce STEM words, ask questions, and encourage them to make connections between words and real-life experiences. This helps children develop fundamental critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Go to the window together and point out what the **weather** is like. Talk about what **clothing items to wear** when going outside for a stroller ride. Spend some time exploring why a particular clothing item may (or may not) be needed for the day's weather.

Go on a stroller ride in nature and point out things you and your child are seeing, hearing, and/or smelling, such as the **sun shining**, **water dripping after a rain**, **trees swaying in the wind**, and **fragrant flowers**. Say, **"I feel the wind blowing across my skin."** **"The sunshine feels so warm."**

MAKING RAIN

Description: Help your child **experiment, observe, and recognize how rain occurs**. Talk about how rain is made of water that falls from clouds.

What My Child Is Learning!

Children learn best by interacting with people and objects. Introduce STEM words, ask questions, and encourage them to make connections between words and real-life experiences. This helps children develop fundamental critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

There are a couple different ways you can show how rain occurs, some more interactive than others.

- Encourage your child to use a pipette to drop water. Consider tinting the water with a blue dye or runny blue paint. Drop onto black paper for a dark night or stormy day or onto drop on green paper for grass on a spring day.
- Add a large cotton ball to a clear bottle, provide a pipette to soak the cotton ball with water to create rain. Encourage your child to count out loud how drops it takes for the cotton ball (cloud) to drip (rain).
- Provide a clear bowl full of clear water with non-toxic shaving cream (cloud) floating on top. Provide a pipette filled with blue tinted water and drop onto the shaving cream. Encourage your child to watch it drip down like rain into the clear water below.
- To create a cloud in a jar, set ice on top of a closed clear jar.



WORM WEATHER

ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY IDEAS:

- Match pictures of **children in different outfits** or nature in different seasons with seasons
- **Observe changes** in and **compare and contrast** seasons over the school year. Keep a weather journal to guide these observations (take or draw pictures to keep a record from which to compare).
- Get dressed appropriately and splash and play in the rain, or play outside.
- Use a rain gauge and graph observations
- Create a weather journal and add drawings and **observations**
- Play with a weather doll. Pretend certain weather is occurring and have your child **dress** a favorite doll or stuffed animal for **the weather**. Be sure to act out the doll as they go "out" in the weather as well.
- Play **weather predictor**. When it's very cloudy and gray, explore with your child what might happen. Ask your child if they think it will rain and why or why not. Then record what actually happened.

