Weather and Gear

Thank you for your interest in this Play & Learn Ready to Learn backpack. The education team at Iowa PBS is excited that you have chosen to enrich your child’s learning.

Contents

7 Books:  
- Hello, World! Weather by Jill McDonald
- Oh Say Can You Say What's the Weather Today? by Tish Rabe
- National Geographic Kids Little Kids First Big Book of Weather by Karen de Seve
- Snowy by Robin Nelson
- Winter is Here by Kimberly Weinberger
- It’s Winter by Susan Swan
- Sunshine Makes the Seasons by Dr. Franklyn M. Branley

Activities: Make a bottle thermometer; Cat in the Hat pinwheel, Water Matching cards

Learn key words: temperature, thermometer, meteorologist, predict, investigate

Read Together

Asking your child questions as you read helps them think about the story and encourages them to ask their own questions. Here are some sample questions to ask your child as you read Hello World! Weather by Jill McDonald.

- Describe what weather is. Weather is what is happening that day whereas climate is over a longer period of time.
- Make connections to fun times the family has had in different types of weather.
- Make observations of the weather scenes and describe what it looks like outside. What does your child notice?
- Make connections to times they have experienced similar weather and the clothes they chose to wear.
- Encourage discussion about temperature, rain/snow, clouds, sun and wind.

Play Together

Playing with your child can be fun for them and for you, and asking questions will help your child learn.

- Create a weather chart. Record temperature, precipitation, what type of clothes were worn, and types of clouds that are visible.
- Take a nature hike or look out the window. How do the animals in the area survive in this temperature? Do they have extra fur? What color is the animal?
- Make a kite. Test out the wind.
- Explore relationships between weather, how people dress and the activities they do.
- Play memory with the water matching cards.
- Make a pinwheel and test the wind outside. Is this useful before flying a kite?
- Build a thermometer to show when the temperature is warmer or cooler. Use the activity guide to set this up.

Online Activities

Go to iowapbs.org/education/story/36383/science-resources-and-activities-ages-4-8 to play the Sid the Science Kid: Snowflake Match, watch the video Sid the Science Kid: Temperature Investigation or the video Young Explorers: What is the Weather? Download the PBS Parents Play & Learn Science app for more weather fun.

Find more information about Iowa PBS Education at iowapbs.org/education. More PBS educational content can be found at pbskids.org.