

Wild Weather

It doesn't matter what you are doing when you are out and about enjoying nature ... there is always some weather around! There are lots of fun ways you can explore the weather. The RSPB have a great [Wild Weather challenge](#) with lots of experiments from making your own fog to making a rain gauge.

Cloud gazing

Type of weather: Cloudy

There are all sorts of different types of clouds; some produce rain, some snow and others just hide the sun. The met office has a good [cloud spotting guide](#) and video to explain them all.

The big fluffy white clouds that look like cotton wool in the sky are called Cumulus clouds. These ones are good for using your imagination to find different shapes like animals, giants or faces in the sky. Stop and gaze at them with a friend and see if you can spot each other's imaginary creations.

Rain dance

Type of weather: Summer Rain Shower

If you know you can get dry quickly, getting soaked to the skin is lots of fun. In a heavy rain shower, run outside and dance like a crazy thing (you can put on a waterproof and wellies, or not - it's up to you!). Take some pots and a wooden spoon out with you to make a noise and add to the fun. Have a towel handy for when you get back inside ... and a hot chocolate is always welcome to help you warm up.

Make a wind sock

You will need: Windy weather, a plastic bag cut into long 2cm strips, A4 sheet of thick paper & crayons, sticky tape, hole punch, 2 pieces of 30cm thin string or cotton.

- ❖ Decorate your paper, then turn it over and tape the strips of plastic along the long edge.
- ❖ Roll the paper into a tube, starting with the short edge, and secure with tape. Your design should be on the outside and the plastic strips coming out from the end of your tube.
- ❖ At the other end, hole punch two holes either side of the tube and tie your string through.
- ❖ Tie the two pieces of string together and hold it high in the wind by the string.

Which direction is the wind coming from?

Keep a weather diary

Type of weather: All sorts

Our weather is rarely the same for a whole week. Using some of the other activities in this sheet to help you, track the changes in the weather through the week and make a note of it in a diary. The Woodland Trust have a simple printable [weather diary](#).



Cook with the sun

Type of weather: Sunny

This is a very cool science project that will teach you about solar power.

Build a solar oven: you only need very simple materials like a cardboard box, tin foil and cling film. NASA have good [instructions](#) for how to build one to make s'mores but you can bake cookies in it too.

The oven will trap the sun's energy to heat up the inside of the box enough to cook food.

Many countries in Africa use solar ovens to cook their food and boil water!

