

# It's Raining, It's Pouring, It's Flooding in Maricopa County!

## Lesson 2: Rain

### Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade



#### Key Vocabulary

**Monsoon** – A change in weather patterns that create intense storms.

**Valley** – A low area of land between hills or mountains.

#### Procedure

1. Make a rain stick as a model for students to be used later (See Sep 6).
2. Show students the first minute of the video, "[Flooding Explanation](#)."
3. Show students Image 1. Explain that mountains are the high ground, and we live where the ground is lower. Tell students that when it rains, the water runs down the mountains and into the valley where we live and this can cause flooding.
4. Ask students what sound rain makes (see if students can come up with ways to make the sound of rain).
5. Use the rain stick that you previously prepared to show students what they will be making.
6. Model for students how to make the rain stick.
  - a. Cover one end of the paper towel roll with plastic wrap. Secure it with a rubber band.
  - b. Add rice to the paper towel roll.
  - c. Cover the other end with a plastic wrap and a rubber band.
  - d. Have students draw a design on 2, 2-inch circles of paper. Glue the paper over each end of the rain stick (You may cut slits in the circles to make it easier to attach). Students may also decorate the paper towel roll with paint, construction paper, glitter, ribbon, etc.

Materials	Paper towel rolls Rice Plastic Wrap Rubber bands Glue Tubs (Plastic Shoe Boxes) Clay Paper Houses
Objective	The student will ask questions about rain.  The student will observe how weather affects animals, plants, and humans.
Assessment	Students will create a model (picture or written) about a weather phenomenon.
Big Question	Why are floods dangerous?
Time	This lesson will take 3 class periods to complete.



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7. Pass out tubs, "houses," and clay.
  - a. Have students pour  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of water into the tub and record what happens to the house (do this before they build their barriers).
  - b. Have students in pairs – each student in the pair will receive a different color clay.
  - c. Instruct students that they can only touch their color clay.
8. Students will work together in pairs to build a flood barrier around their house.
9. Pass out measuring cups with  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup water to each group.
10. Instruct students to slowly pour the water into the tub.
11. Have students observe and record where their barrier leaks.
12. Help students dump out their water.
13. Have students work together to fix their barrier, reminding them they can only touch their color clay.
14. Have students test their new structure.
15. Call the class back together for circle time on the carpet. Have students share what happened to their houses when there was no barrier.
16. Have students discuss whether the barrier helped their houses and why.
17. Have students partner share what could happen to people, plants, and animals when it floods.



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#### Independent Center Ideas

**Imaginative Play** – Set up a weather dress up station in your room with various items of clothing for different types of weather. Have pictures of different weather. Students choose a picture and dress up accordingly. Have them describe the weather to the rest of the group (or have them write, depending on age).

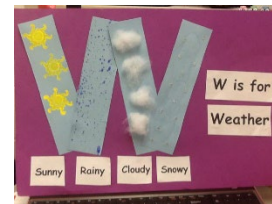
**Writing** – have students trace the weather words. You can use this in a variety of ways. Students can do rainbow words, write the words in sand, write the words in shaving cream, or older students can use the words in sentences.

**Art** – Students use water color to paint pictures of weather. Older students and students who need an extension can label the picture with the steps of the water cycle.

**Math** - Provide students with the graph of rain gage data. Students add how much rain was received in a week.

**Reading** – Students choose books to read related to weather (see additional resources for book titles).

**Science** – Students create a “W” is for weather picture





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#### Additional Resources

##### **Books**

*Rain* by Sam Usher

*Tap Tap Boom Boom* by Elizabeth Bluemle

*It's Raining* by Gail Gibbons

*Hello, Rain* by Kyo Maclear

##### **Videos**

[The Water Cycle for Kids](#)

[Water Cycle](#)

[Dr. Binocs Water Cycle](#)

[Water Cycle Animation](#)

[Water Cycle Song](#)