



Weather Puzzles

Standard Connection:

ELA.RL.PK4.4a

ELA.SL.PK4.2

S.ES.PK4.1a

PD.FM.PK4.4

Enduring Understanding(s):

- Weather can inspire artistic expression and provide opportunities for recreation.

Essential Question(s):

- How do living things work together to solve problems and accomplish goals?

Materials	Vocabulary	Books
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One Dark Night or Thunder Cake Gilberto and the Wind poster or tag board images of weather (see Resource) Ziploc bags basket or box to store puzzles trays 	<p>weather: changes in the atmosphere</p> <p>shelter: a safe place</p> <p>thunder: a loud sound during a storm</p> <p>lightning: flash of light in a storm</p> <p>severe: very strong</p> <p>mild: gentle</p> <p>solve: figure out</p>	

Intro to Centers	
<p>Preparation: Print out and mount weather images on poster or tag board. Laminate and cut pictures into puzzle pieces. Store each puzzle in a Ziploc bag. Because there will be several puzzles and many pieces, you might want to label each bag with a number and then write the same number on the back of each piece that belongs in that bag. This will help to keep the puzzle pieces organized. Have trays available for children to use to define their workspace.</p>	
<p>“In <i>One Dark Night</i>, Jonathan sheltered the cats from a thunderstorm - weather with lightning, thunder, strong wind, and rain. What do you notice?”</p>	<p>Show illustrations. Children respond.</p>
<p>“In <i>Thunder Cake</i>, Patricia was afraid of the lightning and thunder. The weather changed from mild to strong as she and her grandmother collected ingredients for their cake.”</p>	<p>Show illustrations.</p>
<p>“In <i>Gilberto and the Wind</i>, sometimes the weather was mild, like when the wind blew Gilberto’s sailboat. Sometimes the weather was severe, like when the wind blew the door shut. What do you notice?”</p>	<p>Show illustrations. Children respond.</p>
<p>“Today in Puzzles (Manipulatives), you can solve weather puzzles.”</p>	<p>Show Ziploc bags with puzzles.</p>
<p>“What weather do you notice in this puzzle? How is this weather similar to or different from the weather in <i>One Dark Night/Thunder Cake</i> or <i>Gilberto and the Wind</i>?”</p>	<p>Model assembling puzzle. Children respond.</p>

During Centers:

Support children in their puzzle-solving strategies (if they put all the edge pieces together first). Encourage children to count the number of pieces in the puzzles. Scaffold puzzle-solving by providing images of completed puzzles for children to refer to.

Guiding Questions During Centers:

- What do you notice about the weather in the puzzle you solved?
- How is the weather in this puzzle the same as or different from the weather today?
- What things do you like to do on _____ days?
- How does the weather affect how you dress?
- What is your favorite kind of weather and why?

Thinking and Feedback:

Invite children to share their processes. Encourage children to describe the challenges they might have encountered.

Documentation:

Collect samples of the children's work as well as photographs and/or video of their process; use the documentation to launch a discussion during Thinking and Feedback.

Provocation:

Encourage children to draw their own weather pictures to make into puzzles. Support children in observing and recording weather data daily or weekly.

Differentiation/Accommodation:

For Intro to Centers, children with limited verbal skills can use a pre-programmed voice output device to answer questions about the story. (Keep in mind these will likely be closed-ended questions, as those are easiest to program into devices.) This can also be used to help children answer Guiding Questions. During Centers, have a range of numbers of puzzle pieces (some puzzles with five pieces, some with seven, etc.) to match children's level of challenge.