

What's the Weather?

Preschool–Kindergarten

Objectives

- Students will observe and describe the weather.
- Students will compare and contrast weather conditions from one day to the next.

Materials Needed

- *Groundhog Weather School* by Joan Holub
- Weather cards
- Weather Report sheet
- Indoor/outdoor thermometer

Preparation

Make five copies of the Weather Report sheet for each student and staple each set together.

Introduction

Tell students that February 2 is Groundhog Day. Explain the legend that goes along with this funny holiday. Every year on this date, a famous groundhog called Punxsutawney Phil emerges from the ground to “predict” the weather. If the groundhog sees his shadow, he is frightened and runs back underground. This means there will be six more weeks of winter. However, if the groundhog does not see his shadow, we will have an early spring!

Next, read aloud *Groundhog Weather School* by Joan Holub.

Procedure

1. Ask students to share something they learned from the story about predicting the weather.
2. Prompt students to look outside and use some weather words to describe the day. What season is it? Is it hot or cold? Windy or calm? Cloudy or sunny?
3. Display the set of weather cards and ask students to select the card (or cards) that best represents today's weather.
4. Explain that sometimes we can predict weather conditions according to season. For example, summer tends to be hotter than spring. Spring and fall usually have milder temperatures than winter.
5. Hold up the indoor/outdoor thermometer and show students how to read it. Explain that the thermometer shows the temperature inside as well as outside. Ask them to compare the two temperatures and tell where it is colder.

Guided Practice

1. Distribute a set of Weather Report sheets to each student.
2. For five consecutive days, take a few minutes to guide students in making observations about the weather. Help students record these observations on their Weather Report sheets as a whole-class activity.

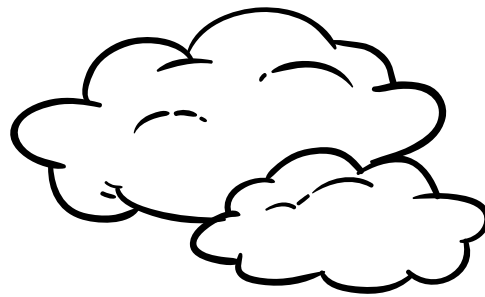
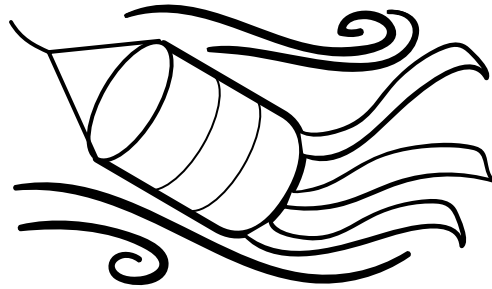
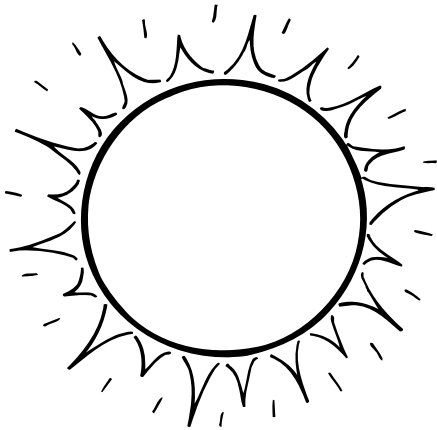


3. Invite students to compare and contrast the weather from one day to the next. Did the weather change? How? Was it colder on the first day or on the last day? Was it rainy or sunny most of the time? Did the weather conditions match the season?

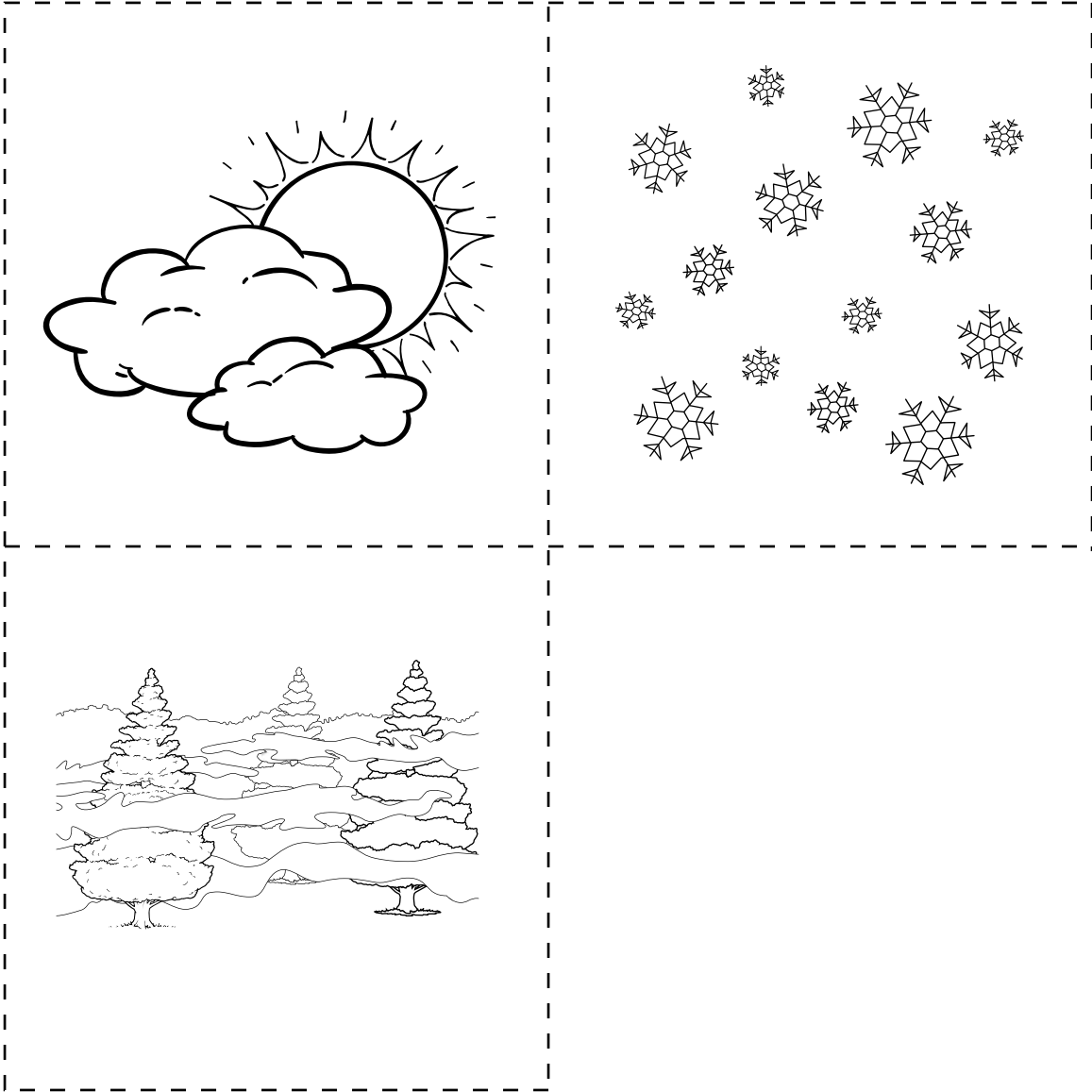
Extension Activity

Have students make a wind sock and decorate it with collage materials!

Weather Cards



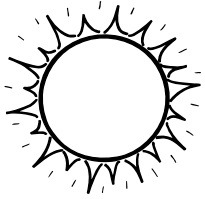
Weather Cards



Name _____



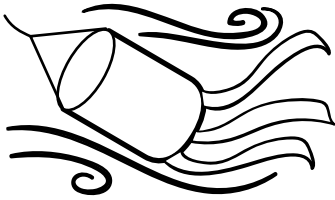
Weather Report



sunny

yes

no



windy

yes

no



cloudy

yes

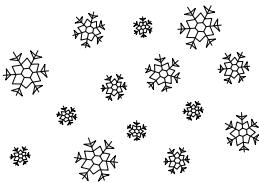
no



rainy

yes

no

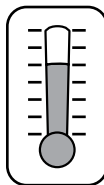


snowy

yes

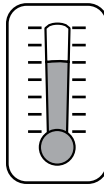
no

inside
temperature



°F

outside
temperature



°F