

F CUSED FIELD TRIPS

PLEASE NOTE: Parts of Level 1 and all of Level 4 are currently under renovation while we prepare your next scientific adventures! For up-to-date construction information, please visit azscience.org/construction_updates.

Second Grade Student Investigation

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This Investigation contains activities on a variety of topics found throughout the Center. Each activity directly supports the Arizona state science standard (listed in the Teacher Guide). Exhibits are also sometimes removed temporarily for repair or refurbishment, or may be in use by other groups, so be prepared to be flexible.

Investigation Activities

Level 1: All About You Gallery, in the Steele Gallery - Coming Soon! The W.O.N.D.E.R. Center - Coming Soon!

Coming soon! Find out just what makes you, YOU!

Level 3: Forces of Nature, Sybil B. Harrington Galleries

What's in the Sky?

Clouds are made up of millions of tiny water droplets, ice, and dust. They are formed when warm, moist air rises into the sky where it cools down and condenses. Clouds can form in a few minutes or over a number of hours. There are different types of clouds and looking at their shape and height in the sky can help you predict the weather. Different types of clouds form at different heights above the ground and bring along different types of weather.

Where to go

Cloud Screen

What to do

Spin the knob on the cloud screen and view the clouds. Look at the names of each cloud and discuss their distinctive features. Have students focus on: size, shape, texture, and type of weather each cloud brings. Ask students:

Do all the clouds look the same or different? Why or why not?

Have you seen these types of clouds in the sky before?

What's the Weather?

The weather is all around us. It is an important part of our lives and one that we cannot control. Instead, the weather often controls how and where we live, what we do, what we wear and what we eat. Someone who studies the weather is called a meteorologist.

Where to go

Immersion Theater; check when the next showing will start. The show runs frequently throughout the day.

What to do

Explain that different parts of the world experience different types of weather.

What are some types of weather you have you experienced?

What are some other types of storms you have heard of before?

Stand on the stage and enjoy the forces of nature. After the show ask the students:

What types of weather did you experience?

What types of damage did the weather cause?

How can weather change your life and the lives of others?

Solid, Liquid or Gas?

Did you have a drink of water today? Can anyone guess how old the water was inside your glass? That water may have fallen as rain just last week, but the water itself has been around as long as the earth has. The earth has a limited supply of water, and it keeps going around and around in what we call the "water cycle". There are four parts: evaporation (when water is heated and turns to vapor or steam), condensation (when water vapor becomes cold and turns back to liquid), precipitation (rain), and collection (when water falls back to the earth).

Where to go

The Water Cycle Tilt Board

What to do

Have students move the marbles through the water cycle on the tilt board, using the information on the board to identify the four major parts of the cycle.

As they do so, have students identify each phase in the water cycle as being liquid, gas or solid water.