



The Weather Relay

You will need at least one piece of clothing for each child. Place them into two or more suitcases at one end of the classroom, the parking lot or paved play yard and draw a straight chalk line. Measure a reasonable distance and draw a chalk starting line. Separate the class into two (or more) teams. The first member of each team runs to their team's suitcase and picks out a piece of clothing to put on and then returns to the starting line and tags the next person to run and repeat the activity. The game ends when all the children have completed the relay and returned to the starting line with their team. Each team member then has to tell what type of weather the clothing he/she is wearing is best suited for: hot/warm (sunny) or cold/cool (snowy).

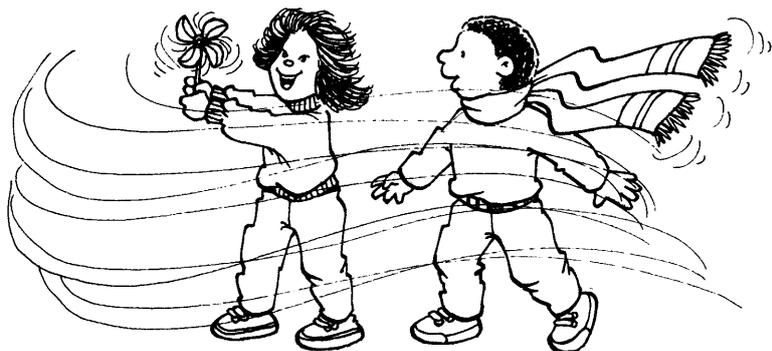
Some suggested items for the suitcases:

sunglasses	mittens	gloves
baseball hat	winter hat	earmuffs
boots	sandals	shorts
tee-shirt	snowpants	wool socks
bathing suit	coat	scarf
sunhat (visor)	bike helmet	snowmobile helmet



Twirling, Whirling In The Wind

Collect colorful "silk" type scarves, enough so that each child can have one. Tie each scarf to a shower ring (one scarf per ring). Take the children outside on a windy day. Pass the scarves out to the children and watch how they move in or with the wind. Variation: use pinwheels in place of the scarves and the children can watch the wind blow the pinwheel around.





What Type of Weather?

It may take some time for you to record sounds from various types of weather scenarios. However, when it is complete, you will be able to use it again and again. Keep a small hand held tape recorder and blank tape in your home or car. When you hear sounds from different weather days, simply record one to three minutes of the sound on the tape. When the next sound naturally occurs, record again until you have collected 10 to 12 different sound bites. You may want to keep a written list of the sounds that you have collected. Once the tape is complete, have the children listen to it and guess what they hear and the weather associated with the sound. If you have them, show pictures of the different types of weather. You may be able to find pictures in magazines, catalogs, or old calendars.

Types of things/weather to record:

- a thunderstorm
- rain on a house roof or car roof
- whistling wind
- birds chirping
- children playing in water/pool/ocean
- car splashing through a puddle
- a hockey game
- a baseball game
- a snowplow clearing the snow off the street



Also, check your local library, record or book store for environmental tapes/CDs. They may have tracks that you can use to develop this cassette tape, as well as other sound cassettes. These types of activities help to develop the child's sound discrimination skills, as well as receptive language skills.

Examples:

"The Sounds of Nature" by the
Special Music Company

"400 Sound Effects" by Sound Effects

