



## Literacy Grab & Go Infants (0 - 1½-year-olds)

**Activity Title:** Weather Watching

**Activity Purpose:** Help build observational skills and vocabulary about the weather and objects found in the daytime and nighttime sky.

### Rationale

Gestures are a part of a child's language development. They help babies communicate before they have words. The more gestures a child has, the more they will be able to communicate their thoughts and feelings. Adding words to the gestures exposes them to vocabulary they can use when they begin to talk.

**Materials:**  none

**Description of Activity:**

1. Begin by making statements about the weather to build your child's vocabulary.
  - For example, "It is hot today. The sun is shining brightly."
2. Then follow those statements up with open-ended questions to spark conversation.
  - Ask questions and then wait before answering, responding to your child's coos, babbles and words. "I wonder if we have everything we need for a hot day like today? What do you think? Yes, I agree, we have some water, we have some sunscreen, and you have a hat. We also have this shade to block out the sun."
  - While infants are not expected to respond during conversations, they may respond nonverbally with coos or eye contact. These interactions will help build language development.
3. Take turns chatting back and forth with your child about the weather.

**Lagniappe:** Discussions about the weather are perfect for when you're on the go and out and about in your community.