

Science/Nature Activities List

Name of activity:	Instructions:
Rain Clouds	<p>What you need: A clear cup, shaving cream, water, food coloring, dropper or straw</p> <p>Instructions: Fill your glass $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way full of water. Add shaving cream to the top (that is your fluffy cloud). Mix a little blue food coloring with some water (it is optional to mix the food coloring with water it just makes it easier to see). Have your child add drops of the blue water to the cloud. As the water gets heavier and heavier, it will start to fall out of the cloud and make rain!</p>
Oil and Water	<p>What you need: 2 clear cups, baby oil or vegetable oil, food coloring, dropper or straw</p> <p>Instructions: Put water in one of the cups and add the food coloring to the water; stir to combine. Place the dropper or straw in the colored water. Fill the second cup about a half way with oil. Take some of the colored water and drop some into the oil. Explore how oil and water do not mix together.</p> <p>**Add broken Alka Selzter tablets to make it a kid-friendly lava lamp!!</p>
Pepper and Soap Experiment	<p>What you need: pepper, plate or bowl, water (optional to make the water a color), Dish soap</p> <p>Instructions: Pour some water onto a plate or bowl. You want it to cover a fairly large part of the plate. Coloring your water blue with food coloring is an optional step but sometimes makes it easier to see the experiment in action. Sprinkle some pepper onto the surface of the water. Dip your finger into the dish soap. Place your finger into the center of the place into the water.</p>

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	Watch as the pepper quickly scatters to the edges of the water on the plate.
Go on a nature scavenger hunt	Find the following things: Flower, Grass, Ant, Cloud, Bird, Bug, Tree, Rock, Butterfly, Leaves
Sink and Float water play with natural materials	This activity combines a nature walk or scavenger hunt with water play. Gather some leaves, rocks, twigs, and other natural materials with your child. Find a container and fill it with water. Place the natural materials you collected one at a time and observe whether each item sinks or floats.
Life Cycle Sequencing	Talk about life cycle of butterflies, frogs, etc. Find a simple book or write the steps of the life cycle and practice putting the items in order to talk about what comes first, next, or last.
“Oobleck”	Mix two part cornstarch to one part water. You can also add food coloring to change the appearance of the oobleck. This can be a fun activity that results in a sensory item that is similar to play-doh or slime.
Themed sensory bins	Fill a bin with beans, rice, water, etc..add items related to a topic or theme of interest. You can put water animals into a water bin, or fill a bin with kinetic sand and have the student dig up bones or fossils. Talk about the items as the child plays and practice skills such as labeling and identifying features or attributes.

These are suggested activities for your children. You know your child best and if the activities do not match your child's skill level or interest it is our recommendation that you do not do the activities. Your child should be supervised by a responsible adult for all activities to ensure their safety.