

WEATHER CHART

Data collection and analysis, prediction, learning about the world, sense of belonging, resilience, fine motor development, eye-hand coordination

1. TRACKING THE WEATHER

Stick up a calendar you already have or one you have printed (free calendar here) on your fridge at your child's height. It's best to use an A3-sized monthly calendar.

Have a small pencil bag of kokis within easy reach of the fridge. At a time that works for you (morning or evening), ask your child to look out the window and describe the weather. Initially, they might need a little help with the vocabulary for this: cloudy, sunny, raining, hot, cold, etc. Each day track the temperature and the cloud cover and/or precipitation.

Discussions of the weather provide ample opportunity for open-ended questions, such as asking what they should wear if it is raining and what does the wind feel like.

2. WORKING WITH DATA

At the end of the month, provide your child with blocks or stackable tokens of some kind that represent each of the types of weather you had that month. Then ask them to count the number of sunny days, for example, and stack that number of blocks on top of each other. Do the same for cloudy days and rainy days. If you place these stacks of blocks next to each other, your child has built a bar graph representing the weather that month.

