

BRUCE'S BIG STORM



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Although Grumpy Bruce just wants to be left alone, all of his neighbors come into his house and ask for help during the big storm. Working together as a team to rescue a friend left outside shows that Bruce really cares about his neighbors even though he is not very sociable.

Think While You Read...

- I wonder why the neighbors chose Bruce's house during the big storm?
- How did everyone feel during the storm?
- What did the animals do to make each other feel safe while waiting out the storm?
- What other problems were solved by the neighbors working together as a team?
- Even though Bruce is not very sociable, why would he help someone in need?

BRING THIS STORY ALIVE WITH IDEAS TO...

Talk

Sometimes it can be scary to experience a storm like the one in the story. What do you like to do when you feel scared? What could you do to help someone who's scared feel better? Who helps you feel safe at home?

Play

Play Duck-Duck-BRUCE like our animal friends in the story! Similar to Duck-Duck-Goose, one person is "IT" and walks around the circle. As they walk around, pretend to be grumpy like Bruce and tap people's heads to say whether they are a "DUCK" or a "BRUCE". Once someone is the "BRUCE" they get up and try to chase "IT" around the circle. The goal is to tap that person before they are able to sit down in the "BRUCE'S" spot.

Write

Choose three animals that you would invite into your home during a big storm. Write down or draw out what you would provide for them so they would not feel scared.

Connect

Animals in our story found shelter at Bruce's house! Let's build a shelter by making a fort using pillows, couch cushions, and blankets. Here's an example:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HPnf15i-Ls>

This book is best for kids ages 3-5 years.

Topics:

Funny, Storytime, Adventure, Friendship, Helping others.

Model curiosity and wonder with these power phrases...

I wonder...

I notice...

Tell me more!

Ask these questions about any book...

Why do you think the author wrote this story?
What's their message?

How did things change in the story?

What does this story make you wonder about?

Help readers show their thinking by asking...

That's interesting! What made you think that? Or how do you know?

CLOUD VIEWER

The shape, movement, and color of a cloud can warn meteorologist when rain is going to fall. In this activity, create a handheld viewer that will help you observe and classify clouds! How could Bruce and his neighbors from Soggy Hollow use this tool to prepare for the next big storm? Keep track of your cloud observations in a journal, sketching the cloud type and noting the weather.

When you are out using your cloud viewer, try making observations with your other senses: Can you feel which way the breeze is blowing? Can you smell rain? Hear thunder?

Materials

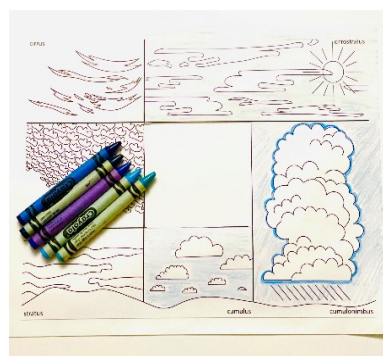
- Cloud viewer template
- Scissors
- Crayons
- Glue stick
- 2 large popsicle sticks
- Cotton balls

Instructions



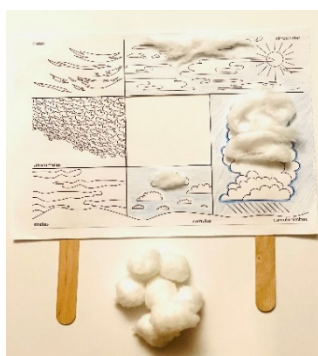
Step 1

Fold the sheet in half and cut out the center square. This will be the space that you look through to observe the clouds.



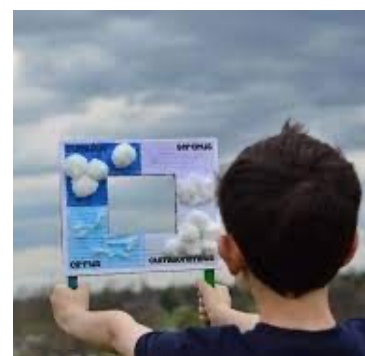
Step 2

Color the different sky and cloud patterns on the sheet! Look up example images on the internet for ideas.



Step 3

Glue the wooden sticks to the back of the viewer. Rip and shape the cotton balls to look like the different cloud shapes. Glue the cotton balls on top of the clouds. Use a marker to darken the nimbus and cumulonimbus clouds.



Step 4

Head outside to play! Use your cloud viewer to identify the clouds in the sky!

Thank You

Thank you to the Fleet Science Center for your partnership in developing this STEM activity for families!

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