Splendid Skies

Imaginative learning project for years 1 and 2

Imagine floating high above land and sea on a bed of clouds, silently sweeping by on a billowing breeze. Back down to earth, let's take a walk outdoors. But what should we wear? Wellington boots? A sun hat? Maybe a warm coat? How do we know what the weather will be like today? Read and write poems and postcards, and, if you don't like today's weather report, why not write your own? Make a weather station to find out more about the weather in your area. What weather do you prefer? Sunshine, snow, storms or showers? Get your wellies on and let's go!

Geography and Science focus. Key Facts:

- The United Kingdom has four seasons. These are spring, summer, autumn and winter.
- In the winter the days are short and the weather is usually cold.
- In the spring the days start to become longer and the temperature begins to rise.
- The environment changes each season. For example, in spring, green leaves and buds appear on the trees and plants begin to grow. In autumn leaves begin to change colour and fall off the trees.
- There are different types of weather. These include sun, rain, snow, cloud, fog and wind.
- People who forecast the weather are called meteorologists.
- A thermometer is used to measure the temperature.
- A rain gauge is used to measure the amount of rainfall.
- An anemometer is used to measure wind speed.
- A weather vane is used to show the wind direction.
- Sir Francis Beaufort was an admiral who created the Beaufort scale. The scale helps sailors to understand wind conditions

Key Vocabulary

⇒ Extreme: very serious or intense

⇒ Flood: a large amount of water that covers the land

⇒ Hemisphere: a half of the Earth

⇒ Storm: a type of weather that includes heavy, rain, strong winds or snow

⇒ Weather forecast: a prediction of the weather

⇒ Climate: the pattern of weather over a longer period of time. There are differences in the climate between continents across the world

⇒ Shadow: a shadow is formed when light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object

Homework Projects

♦ Weather forceasts use symbols on maps to tell people what the weather will be like where they live. Design weather symbols for the different types of weather listed: cloud, fog, hail, rain, snow, sun and cloud, sun and rain, wind.

♦ Fold a piec eof paper into four quarters—one quarter for each of the seasons. Use what you know about the seasons to draw a picture in each section. Include the weather and what the trees and other plants look like.

♦ Create a piece of artwork or craft on the theme of weather or the seasons. Ideas include a painting or collage, or you might like to make a kite or windchimes.