

Rain Cloud in a Jar Experiment

This "Rain Cloud in a Jar" experiment is a fun and interactive way for young children to explore the science of clouds and rain!

What you need:

- A clear large jar (glass or plastic)
- Shaving cream (not a gel version)
- Gel food colouring or washable watercolours
- Pipettes or droppers



What to do:

1. In a small cup, mix the food colouring with some water.
2. Fill the large jar with water until it is about 3/4 full.
3. Place the jar and the cups of coloured water on the table. Place a dropper in each cup of coloured water.
4. Right before the children are ready to do the experiment, spray a bunch of shaving cream in the jar until it is just a small bit above the top of the jar.
5. Ask the children to pick up some coloured water with a dropper and squirt it on top of the shaving cream cloud. Repeat this step one or two more times but pay close attention to what is happening below the cloud!
6. The coloured water will begin to seep down through the shaving cream and into the water below. Just like rain!

How it works:

The shaving cream represents the clouds, and the water represents the air. The coloured water represents rain. As the coloured water saturates the "cloud", it gets heavy and eventually is so heavy that it can no longer hold the water. Its "rains" down into the jar – through the "air." It is just like real rain falls through the air.

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