

CLOUDS

Description and Suggestion for Use of Activity:

This activity was designed to be used as an independent or cooperative pre-writing exercise. Students sort the cards into the four categories of clouds identified on the "Cloud" mat. They may then write sentences, paragraphs or further research clouds using this information. According to the Ohio Academic Standards all 4th graders statewide are supposed to know these four types of clouds and the kind of weather they bring.

It is recommended that these pages be printed on card stock and laminated to extend their durability. After cutting out the cards, an envelope or library pouch may be attached to the back of the mat to "house" the smaller informational cards. It might be wise to write the appropriate name of the cloud on the back of each of the small cards, that way students may check to make sure they have sorted correctly before they begin to write.

FYI: Column one relates to cumulus clouds, column two pertains to cirrus clouds, column three include descriptors for stratus clouds, and second page, column one has cards that describe cumulonimbus clouds.

The original intent was for these cards to be placed in a space in the classroom or center for independent or cooperative student work as a pre-writing activity. Depending on how they are used in the classroom, they may also fulfill some of the requirements of standards in Language Arts, particularly Writing Process and Writing Applications.

name means HEAP

name means
CURL of HAIR

names means LAYER

bring fair weather

thin, wispy clouds

form in flat, wide
layers across the sky

formed as warm, moist
air moves high into
the sky

formed mostly of
ice crystals

usually dull gray

often seen around
midday or in the
afternoon

often mean that warm
air is on the way

contain rain or snow

form in puffy
dome-shaped billows,
sometimes clouds
have flat bottoms

formed high in the sky
where the temperature
is very cold

fog is this type of
cloud in contact with
the ground

fast moving clouds

name means RAIN

tall thick clouds usually
mushroom shaped

low altitude clouds
that obstruct light

form along cold front
so can cause snow,
hail, even tornadoes

carry huge quantity
of water and bring
storms which can
cause flooding

can contain very high
unpredictable winds

CLOUDS

Name means...	Appearance	Type of Weather
Cumulus		
Cumulonimbus		
Cirrus		
Stratus		