



Rain Painting

Hosea 6:3

Let us acknowledge the LORD; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the **winter rains**, like the

spring rains that water the earth.

1. Sprinkle a few drops of food coloring on a paper plate.
2. Get into rain gear and walk outdoors with the plate for about a minute and watch as artistic designs appear.

Adjustment: For a batik effect, try drawing a white crayon design on a new plate. Use powdered tempera paint in place of food coloring



Plants to Grow

Psalm 147:8

He covers the sky with clouds; he supplies the earth with rain and makes **grass grow** on the hills.

1. Fill 6oz paper drinking cup with potting soil.
2. Sprinkle rye grass on top of the soil and cover the seeds with additional soil.
3. Children use spray bottles to water the soil and place cups in windowsill. Grass should begin to grow in a few days.



Rainbow Jewelry

Genesis 9:13

I have set my **rainbow** in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth.

1. Measure the elastic cord around your wrist, allowing an extra few inches for the knot.
2. Simply thread on the candy; we alternated between regular-size and mini LifeSavers.
3. When you're finished, tie the two ends of the elastic with a double knot. No sampling your new bracelet before you try it on!

Adjustment: Use fruit loops in place of LifeSavers



Lightning in the House!

Jeremiah 10:13

When he thunders, the waters in the heavens roar; he makes clouds rise from the ends of the earth. He sends **lightning** with the rain and brings out the wind from his storehouses.

1. Secure standard flashlights for children in the class (one per child is best).
 2. Bang two pie pans together, count to ten (10) and everyone turn on the flashlights on the ceiling.
 3. Children can make lightning strikes by waving flashlight paths on the ceiling.
- Adjustment: Cover the ends of the flashlight with colored cellophane. Call out colors and have students turn on flashlights when their color is called.

Stormy Weather

Psalm 107:29

He calmed the **storm** to a whisper and stilled the waves.

1. Read several of the books from the bibliography about storms.
2. Ask the children if they remember a storm. Ask them to list what they remember about the storm. Record the responses.
3. Ask them to draw the storm, how did the sky look? Record any dictation on their drawing.

Water on the Glass

Job 36:27

He draws up the **drops of water**, which distill as rain to the streams.

1. Dry the outside of the glass with a paper towel. Brown paper towels are best, as they dramatically illustrate the absence of moisture. Show to the children.
2. Pour ice water into the glass. Discuss for a minute or two what the children think will happen.
3. Look at the glass. What is happening to the outside of the glass? Does it have holes in it? Where did that water come from? What is that called?

Bury It

Exodus 23:10

Plant and harvest your crops,

1. Prepare an outdoor planting area, if necessary. If planting is to be done indoors, prepare a place for the pots where they will receive sunlight.
2. Ask the children to recall all the things they have seen mud and dirt used for.
3. Show them the seeds and discuss what seeds need to grow.
4. Give each child a seed to plant. Discuss and establish a routine for regular watering.

Muddy Footprints

Psalm 77:19

Your path led through the sea, your way through the mighty waters, though your **footprints** were not seen.

1. In an area of the classroom that is not a part of the main traffic pattern, set up a chair with the shallow pan on the floor in front of it.
2. Three feet away, set up another chair facing the first, with the dishpan with soapy water in front of it.
3. Unroll a three foot length of paper in between the shallow pan and the dishpan with soapy water.
4. Pour a small amount of brown paint into the shallow pan.
5. Have children remove their shoes and socks. Roll up their pant legs.
6. Hold their hands and have them step into the shallow pan and then out onto the paper. Have them walk the length of the paper to the dishpan and step in.
7. Have the child sit down on the chair by the dishpan and help the child wash and dry his feet. Talk about how his footprints look on the paper.

Rub-a-Dub Classroom

Psalm 51:7

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be **clean**; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

1. This is an excellent activity to do at the end of the year. Remove items from shelves before beginning this activity
2. Provide each child with a pail, soapy water and a sponge.
3. Direct each child to a piece of equipment or shelf.
4. Be sure to demonstrate how to squeeze out the sponge.
5. Wash cubbies, shelves, tables and chairs. The children love to help clean.

Blowing Bubbles

Proverbs 8:24

I was born before the oceans were created, before the springs **bubbled** forth their waters.

1. Mix glycerin, liquid detergent and water together or use purchased bubble solution.
2. Provide the children with cups of bubble solution and bubble wands.
3. Let them blow bubbles. Ask them how big a bubble they can blow. Can they catch any bubbles?

Car Wash

Ezekiel 36:25

I will sprinkle **clean** water on you, and you will be **clean**.

1. Ask several parents to participate by bringing their cars to school for washing, assign times. This can be done only if the cars can be washed away from the street.
2. Provide a sponge and a pail of soapy water for each child to use.
3. Supervise the children as they help wash the car. Talk about each part that must be washed as the children work.
4. Rinse.

Bubbling Raisins

Chronicles 16:3

Then he gave to every man and woman in all Israel a loaf of bread, a cake of dates, and a cake of **raisins**.

1. Put a few raisins in the jar.
2. Add vinegar, filling the jar about three quarter full.
3. Add two to three teaspoons of baking soda.
4. Watch the raisins bounce up and down. Watch all the bubbles.
5. Add more soda if needed.

Effervescent Eggs

Job 39:14

She lays her **eggs** on top of the earth, letting them be warmed in the dust.

1. Place egg gently in the jar.
2. Add vinegar (enough to cover the egg entirely) and seal the jar.
3. Observe what happens to the egg. Where do the bubbles come from? What does the egg look like?
4. After five days, remove the egg and feel how rubbery it is. Where did the shell go?

Sandy Cups

Proverbs 27:7

A person who is full refuses honey, but even bitter food tastes **sweet** to the hungry.

1. Pour the milk into a large bowl. Add the pudding mix and beat the mixture until well blended.
 2. Stir in whipped cream and half of the crushed cookies.
 3. Place one tablespoon full of crushed cookies into each cup.
 4. Fill the cups $\frac{3}{4}$ full with the pudding mixture.
 5. Top with the remaining crushed cookies. Refrigerate for one hour.
- * Make "Mud Cups" with chocolate pudding.

Washing Water

Ezekiel 32:2

'You are like a lion among the nations; you are like a monster in the seas thrashing about in your streams, churning the water with your feet and **muddying** the streams.

1. If Possible, have the children help collect muddy water from a puddle. Talk about how the water looks.
2. Using a different filter each time, have the children pour the water from the jar through the filter, letting it flow into a clean jar. Take a look at the water after it has been through a filter.
3. Ask the children, "Which filter seemed to work best?"

Soapy Mud

Kings 5:10

Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, **wash** yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

1. Have several children tear off sheets of toilet paper and put them into the tub.
2. Have other children use vegetable peelers to shave off bits of soap into the tub.
3. Add some water and have the children mix it all up with their hands.
4. Let the children play and explore this "clean mud!"

Cake, Slime or Pie, Please

1 Kings 14:3

Take him a gift of ten loaves of bread, some **cakes**, and a jar of honey, and ask him what will happen to the boy.”

1. Cover the work area with newspaper.
2. Give each child a cup and a spoon.
3. Let them experiment mixing dirt and water to make mud pies.
4. What happens if there is not enough water added? The mixture is thick, like cake.
5. What happens if too much water is added? The mixture is runny, like slime.

Bubble Mountains

Proverbs 8:24

I was born before the oceans were created, before the springs **bubbled** forth their waters.

1. Put one teaspoon of baking soda into a cup. Add 1/3 cup of vinegar. Watch!
2. Ask the children, “What makes all the bubbles?” Record their responses.
3. After presenting this activity to the group, make it available for further explorations during choice time.

Robin Red-Breast’s Nest

Luke 13:19

It is like a tiny mustard seed that a man planted in a garden; it grows and becomes a tree, and the birds make **nests** in its branches.”

1. Cover the table with newspaper and display the bird’s nest.
2. Have the children examine the bird’s nest. Ask them what kind of animal made this nest.
3. Show them the dirt, twigs, grass, and water.
4. Using the foil pie tin as a place to work, ask the children to fashion a nest using the materials on the table.

Rain Painting

Isaiah 62:2

And you will be given a new **name** by the Lord’s own mouth.

1. Write each child’s name on her paper with the permanent marker.
2. Have the children sprinkle powdered tempera on their papers.
3. Carefully hold each paper out a doorway in the rain, or hold over a tub and sprinkle water from the sprinkling can onto the paper.
4. Let them dry, and shake off any dry tempera over a wastebasket.

Catch the Bubbles

Proverbs 8:24

I was born before the oceans were created, before the springs **bubbled** forth their waters..

1. Pour a small amount of bubble solution into the bowls and add a generous amount of food coloring, making each bowl a different color.
2. Have the child choose a color and blow bubbles with the straw until they reach its brim. NOTE: Be sure to instruct the child to blow out only.
3. "Catch" the bubbles by placing a piece of paper on top of the bowl. Do this with several different colors.

Evaporation Investigation

Ecclesiastes 11:3

If **clouds are full of water**, they pour rain upon the earth. Whether a tree falls to the south or to the north, in the place where it falls, there will it lie.

1. Make a record-keeping chart with a picture of each container on it.
2. Have the children help measure the water and pour the same amount in each container.
3. Mark the water line on each container with a permanent marker.
4. Check the water line each day and measure with a ruler how far the water has gone down. Where does the water go?

Catch That Muddy Track

Psalm 77:19

Your path led through the sea, your way through the mighty waters, though your **footprints** were not seen.

1. After it has rained, look outside for a good footprint in the mud.
2. Mix the plaster of Paris according to the directions on the box.
3. Take the liquid plaster outside and pour into the footprint. Let it harden until the mold can be lifted out.
4. You should have a perfect mold of the footprint to take inside your classroom.

Where Did It Go?

Deuteronomy 8:7

For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with **streams and pools of water**, with **springs** flowing in the valleys and hills;

1. Find a large puddle to measure. Measure its length and width with the measuring tape and record the measurements.
2. Draw around the outer edge of the puddle with chalk.
3. Follow the same procedure the next day. Why is the puddle smaller? Where did the water go?

Reference:

All Rainy Day Activities taken from *Themestorming* by Becker, Reid, Steinhaus and Wieck.
Scriptures located using BibleGateway.com: <http://www.biblegateway.com/keyword/>

Additional Rainy Day text references

Rainy Day Activities by Feldman

Active Experiences for Active Children by Seefeldt and Galper

Web Resources

Everyday Preschool Science Activities and Experiments: <http://www.shirleys-preschool-activities.com/preschool-science-activities.html>

Indoor Games for Preschoolers: <http://fun.familyeducation.com/preschool/early-learning/33390.html>

Arts and Crafts Weather: <http://www.preschooleducation.com/aweather.shtml>

Everything Preschool-Weather: <http://www.everythingpreschool.com/themes/weather/art.htm>

Rainy Day Activities-Universal Preschool: <http://www.universalpreschool.com/how-to/rainy-day.asp>

