

Outdoor Learning Experience (5 and 6 years old)

Learning Experience: Cloud Watching	Shared by: Geraldine Hii
Environment: Open patch of grass	Estimated time: 30 minutes
Children's prior knowledge: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children have observation skills and vocabulary for describing	
What children will experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children will have first-hand experience with the natural world, which encourages them to explore freely through observation and direct personal experiences. NEL Learning Areas: Language and Literacy: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about personal experiences Discovery of the World: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Observe and be aware of the world they live in• Make simple recordings of their observations and findings	Suitable for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 years old• 6 years old
What you will need: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large canvas sheet / picnic mat• A5 pieces of Paper• Thin black markers	Benefit-Risk Assessment: Benefit: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appreciation for nature• Encourage creativity• Connect children with the natural world• Encourage use of language to describe the clouds and their experience with cloud watching

Risk:

- Insects on the ground
- Suitability of the open space
- Adequate adult supervision

Management:

- No sharp objects on the grass / open field
- Proper hydration
- Sun protection
- Set limits/boundary for children to explore

How to make it happen:

1. Bring the children outdoors and get them to lie down on the canvas sheet to observe the clouds.
2. Ask children to describe what they see when they look at the clouds.
3. Encourage the children to share their observations with their friends.
 - a) They can describe where the cloud is and what it looks like.
 - b) Patterns and shapes can be used to describe the clouds.
4. Take the moment to enjoy watching the clouds, which could relax and spark the children's creative imagination. If the children want to draw what they saw, let them do so with the materials provided.