

## Cloud Watching



**Theme:** Clouds

**Curriculum Area:** Science

Clouds come in different shapes and sizes. Clouds are made up of tiny droplets or frozen crystals of water. Clouds form water vapor, an invisible gas, turns into liquid water droplets. These water droplets form on tiny particles, like dust, that are floating in the air. We see different clouds everyday depending on these particles! The types of clouds we see are can be High clouds( cirrus, cirrocumulus, cirrostratus), Middle clouds (altostratus, altocumulus, nimbostratus), Low clouds(stratus, stratocumulus) or Vertical clouds ( cumulus, cumulonimbus). Now let's go look outside and see what clouds are in the sky!

**Activity:** Have kids recreate their favorite cloud with cotton balls to show the thickness of a real cloud.

**Age of Children:** 7-9

**Materials Needed:**

- Cotton balls
- Liquid glue
- Markers
- Blue Construction paper

**Developmental Objectives/Domains:**

1. Understanding of different cloud types

2. Enhance cognitive development with sensory play of cotton balls
3. Connect real life science with arts and crafts
4. Develop motor and coordination skills

**Procedure:**

1. Ask students what types of clouds they usually see
2. Have a picture of the cloud types up for reference for activity
3. Hand the supplies out
  - a. Keep cotton ball in a sandwich bag until used
4. Pick a cloud to recreate from the reference picture
5. Write the type of cloud on the top of the blue construction paper with marker
6. Pull apart cotton balls, bunch up, etc to get the desired fluff of the cloud you are recreating
  - a. Ex: little if stratus, or lots if cumulonimbus
7. Last, glue pieces on, layer to get fluffiness or take cotton balls apart if needed.

**References:**

[https://www.ducksters.com/science/earth\\_science/clouds.php](https://www.ducksters.com/science/earth_science/clouds.php)

<https://climatekids.nasa.gov/cloud-formation/>