

# The Farmer's Almanac

27 Feb 10:30  
Duty six : Blue

Start	Time	Activity	Requirements	Instructions	Scouter
<b>Farmer's need a weather eye to know when to plant and when to harvest</b>					
27 Feb 10:30	5	Activities : Opening	Register, beans, flag, totem and skin	Grand Howl Flag Break Register Inspection - belts and shoes	Akela
<b>You are safe as long as you are holding the chicken in this next game</b>					
27 Feb 10:35	10	Game : Chuck the Chicken		<p><b>Materials</b></p> <p>You need something to be the "chicken." This can be a rubber chicken, a towel with a knot tied in the middle, a ball, etc. Use your imagination.</p> <p><b>Instructions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Choose somebody to be "It".</li> <li>2. Define the boundaries of the <a href="#">play area</a>.</li> <li>3. Give the "chicken" to somebody who is not it.</li> <li>4. "It" tries to tag the other players. "It" can tag anyone except the person currently in possession of the "chicken".</li> <li>5. The players work together, throwing the "chicken" to the person being chased to prevent "it" from tagging them.</li> <li>6. When somebody is tagged, they must sit on the side of the <a href="#">play area</a>.</li> <li>7. Last person not to be tagged wins. He or she gets to be "It" for the next round</li> </ol> <p><b>Notes</b></p> <p>This game is meant to teach teamwork. However with younger children, some might not want to throw the chicken. If this is the case, make the rule that nobody can keep the chicken for more than the count of three.</p> <p>Another option is to have multiple chickens and only the people with the birds can be tagged. Know your group and adjust the rules as necessary.</p>	Bagheera
<b>How do you know when it is going to rain? How about looking at a picture? Maybe from the color of the sky?</b>					
27 Feb 10:45	40	Crafts : Color-changing Weather Picture	Blotting paper (pink colored). Watercolor paper will also work cobalt chloride water paper	<p>Instructions for making flower indicator. Instead of making the flower, paint a scene on the blotting paper with the blue cobalt/pink paper as the sky.</p> <p>Dissolve common salt or cobalt chloride in some water to make a saturated solution. Make a flower form out of a pink colored blotting paper. Cut the blotting paper into petal shaped pieces of</p>	Akela

			paints paintbrushes	<p>varying sizes from small to bigger ones. Arrange them according to size keeping the smallest on the top and the biggest below them, with the help of a wire fix them up so that the wire acts as the stem of the flower. Fix a few green colored leaves to the stem in order to make it as real as possible. Soak the pink blotting paper in saturated salt solution or cobalt chloride solution.</p> <p>After drying your own weather forecaster is now ready to use.</p> <p>Working:</p> <p>The petals of this flower will change colors indicating impending weather. In fine weather the flower will be white with the dry salt crystals, but on a rainy day and damp weather, the flower petals will turn deep pink. If you have used cobalt chloride the flower will turn blue on a wet day.</p> <p>Precaution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If you are using cobalt chloride in making this, then handle it with care(as this is a laboratory chemical), it may cause allergy in some cases so it is better to take the help of some elder.</li> <li>- To be on the safer side use common salt in place of cobalt chloride.</li> </ul>	
<b>All that thinking about rain has made me thirsty</b>					
27 Feb 11:25	5	<b>Activities</b> : Juice and biscuits		Juice and biscuit break	Baloo
<b>How do you decide what to wear today? Does the weather help you decide?</b>					
27 Feb 11:30	15	<b>Game</b> : Clothing Relay		<p>1. Start by getting a collection of clothes that are appropriate for all weather conditions, bathing suits, hats, scarves, shorts, raincoats, sunglasses, etc. You can ask for donations from parents, friends or purchase some second hand items at a thrift store. Put them all into a large bin and place them at the front of the class. Then divide your class into two teams and have each team chose a volunteer to stand up front with the collection of clothing. The rest of the class should line up at the back of the room in teams. For each round, you will announce a weather condition and one person from each team should run up to the front of the room. They must then run up to the person on their team who is standing by the clothing and chose an item that is appropriate for that type of weather. The runner must then place the item on the other student without the other student's assistance. The first person to choose an appropriate item of clothing for his teammate and put in on the teammate appropriately scores a point for the team. Continue until everyone has had a turn or until you have used all your weather words. The team with the most points wins.</p>	Riki
<b>What makes it rain? What is global warming? What is air pollution? Experiements are how we learn the answers to some of these questions</b>					
27 Feb 11:45	30	<b>Activities</b> : Weather Experiments	Water Jar	<b>Set up the below experiments at the start of Cubs and go back to them at this stage of the programme to get the</b>	Akela

Food colouring  
Shaving cream  
Thermometer x 2  
Plastic bag  
Board  
Oil/Flour glue  
String

**results.**

**Greenhouse Effect:**

1. Put one of the thermometers in the plastic bag and tie the bag so it is airtight
2. Put the bag in direct sunlight for about 10 minutes
3. Put the other thermometer beside the bag
4. Wait for 10 to 15 minutes and then look at the two temperatures.
5. What do you notice?

When the sunlight travels into the plastic bag, the light turns into heat. The inside of the bag gets hotter because the air can't escape quickly enough. The sunlight does the same thing when it enters Earth's atmosphere. This is called the greenhouse effect.

**Air Pollution:**

1. Take the piece of white cardboard/board and put a hole in the top and tie it on.
2. Paint one side of the board with glue/oil
3. Hang the piece of board outside for about an hour (longer if the day is not windy)
4. Look at what is stuck to the board and see what the wind has been carrying

There will be seeds, leaves, maybe some insects. Look for dust and smog and talk about what air pollution and what we can see on the board that tells us how clean/dirty the air is.

**Rain:**

1. Pour water into the glass/jar, leaving about an inch from the rim
2. Carefully add a layer of shaving cream to the water. Be sure not to make it too thick or you'll find you're having to wait a long time for the magic to begin and that's a bit boring. **The shaving cream represents a cloud and the water is the atmosphere.**
3. Simply add a few drops of blue food colouring to the shaving cream. The weight of the food colouring will start to push through the shaving cream and fall down through the water that's in the glass! This will look just like streaks of rain falling.

**Some additional easy experiments:**

**Clouds:**

1. Pour a little bit of warm water into the bottle, just enough to cover the bottom

				<p>2. Light a match and let it burn for a little while</p> <p>3. Blow the match out and immediately let the smoke fill the bottle. The smoke will clear quite quickly but there will be invisible particles floating in the bottle.</p> <p>4. Screw the cap on the bottle and try to keep as much smoke in the bottle as you can.</p> <p>5. Squeeze the bottle six or seven times.</p> <p><b>Tornado:</b></p> <p>1. Measure 1 teaspoon of washing up liquid and pour it into a bottle</p> <p>2. Drop in 5 small aluminium foil balls into the bottle</p> <p>3. Fill the bottle with water</p> <p>4. Add a couple of drops of blue food colouring</p> <p>5. Rotate the bottle and you should see a swirling motion that represents the motion of a tornado</p>	
<b>Who complains every time it rains? The boy in today's story complains a lot</b>					
27 Feb 12:15	10	<b>Yarn</b> : Incredible Rain		See attached	Raksha
<b>Weather is important for plants, us, our world...we can't choose what we get but we can make the best of it, every day</b>					
27 Feb 12:25	5	<b>Activities</b> : Closing	Totem, Skin Badges, certificates	Announcements Badge handouts Grand Howl Flag Down Prayer Dismiss	Akela

## Incredible Rain

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### Category

Yarn

### Time to allocate (mins)

Gus Grumplings was never happy with anything. He had lots of friends, and parents who loved him dearly, **but all Gus could think about was what he didn't have**, or things he did have which he was unhappy with. If someone gave him a car, it would be too big or too slow. If he went to the zoo, **he'd come back disappointed because they hadn't let him feed the lions**. If he played football with his friends, he would complain, saying there were too many of them for just one ball...

**What caught Gus unaware was Chuckles the prankster cloud** One day, Chuckles was drifting past, and heard all of Gus's complaining. Chuckles wafted over to see. **When the cloud was right above Gus**, he started dropping heavy black rain on him. That was Chuckles' favourite trick to play on grumpy little kids

Gus wasn't at all impressed by this new development; it just made him complain even more. **He was even angrier after he realised that the cloud was following him.**

Well, this carried on for almost a week. Gus couldn't get away from the cloud, **and he got more and more infuriated.**

Gus had a little friend, a happy and generous girl called Gladys. Gladys was the only one who had been willing to hang around with Gus during all those black, rainy days. **All the other children had run off to avoid getting soaked and ending up completely black.**

One day, when Gus was at the end of his tether, she said to him: "Cheer up! What you should realise is that you're the only one of us who has his very own cloud, and even better, its rain is black! We could play some fun games with a cloud like this, don't you reckon?" As Gladys was his only company these days, **and he didn't want her to leave as the others had** Gus reluctantly agreed.

### Story

Gladys took him to the swimming pool, and left him there until all the pool water was black. **Then she went and got other kids.** They came and played in the pool. The water being black meant they could play hide and seek! Grudgingly, Gus had to admit it had been a lot of fun, **but what was even more fun was playing Wet the Cat**

Gus would find cats and run alongside them. When the cats felt themselves getting wet they would jump about in the craziest way, and run off at top speed, **with funny looks on their faces.** Before long, all the children in town had gathered around Gus, thinking up new games they could play using the cloud.

For the first time ever, Gus started to see the positive side of things; even things which, at first, had seemed so bad.

Chuckles, the prankster cloud, thought that he could now leave; his work had been done. But, before leaving, **he gave Gus two days of multicoloured rain**, with which the children invented the most fun games ever.

When Chuckles finally left, Gus didn't complain. **Now he knew to focus on the good in life** and the good thing about Chuckles' departure was that no longer was Gus soaking wet all day. Now he could go and do dry things, and that's exactly what he did.

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Entry written by Sharon Venn of 1st Randburg

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