

## Come Rain or Come Shine

With thanks to the Wisconsin Weather Stories team.

[<http://weatherstories.ssec.wisc.edu/index.html>]

From song lyrics to predictions, we use weather lore every day. Have you ever worn your pajamas inside out in hope of a snow day? What sayings do you use to predict the weather? Do you have stories about storms or rainbows or really hot days? This activity looks at a variety of ways we are all folk meteorologists.

**Supplies** Paper, pencil, Weather Lore Worksheet, optional crayons and audio recorder

### Directions

1. What is your idea of a perfect weather day? Draw a sketch of it.
2. *In like a lion, out like a lamb. Red sky at night, sailor's delight.* Think about weather sayings and beliefs that you and your family share. Use the Weather Lore Worksheet to collect additional sayings and beliefs from family members and friends. How many are repeated? Which ones surprise you? Does science prove any of them to be true? Make a booklet or webpage with all the sayings you collect. Option: Illustrate the sayings.
3. There are lots of songs about weather. "Rain, Rain, Go Away" is a 17<sup>th</sup>-century English nursery rhyme. The Beatles wrote "Good Day Sunshine" in 1966. Brainstorm all the songs you can think of about weather. Use the Weather Lore Worksheet to add to your list by quizzing family members and friends. Choose a weather song and research its origins, lyrics, and tune on the Internet or through interviews. Learn all the words to a weather song and share it with family and friends. Host a "Stormy Weather" sing-a-long at home or online.
4. Blizzards, droughts, tornadoes, forest fires. Weather can be dramatic, so many people have weather stories. What weather stories do you and your family share? Interview family members and friends using the Weather Lore Worksheet. Choose one of the stories that you collect to inspire a weather poem or drawing.

### Bonus Activities

- Research Weather Work on the Wisconsin Weather Stories website <http://weatherstories.ssec.wisc.edu/work>. Meteorologists share occupational folklife like stories, jokes, and expressions about their profession.
- Investigate weather proverbs on the Wisconsin Weather Stories website. [http://weatherstories.ssec.wisc.edu/sayings/wind\\_west.html](http://weatherstories.ssec.wisc.edu/sayings/wind_west.html) They act as tiny packages of community advice.