

## Woodsy Owl's Curiosity Club- Wildlife & the Water Cycle

**Safety Disclaimer:** This program is designed for children WITH their parent or caretaker. Please review this program and designate a safe place for you and your child to participate. Woodsy Owl's Curiosity Club usually takes place at the Cradle of Forestry in America during the summer, weekly from 10:30am to 12pm. Since the Corona Virus we are designing new ways for children to learn about nature and stay safe. For 2020 we are offering these Digital Woodsy Owl programs for adults to be able to lead at home. Please enjoy and we hope to see you and your child for our 2021 programs at the Cradle.

### About Woodsy Owl:

Caring, friendly, and wise, Woodsy Owl is a whimsical fellow and he's got his heart set on motivating kids to form healthy, lasting relationships with nature. As Woodsy flies across our land, he encourages youngsters to marvel at and explore the natural world, even in the city. His motto "Lend a Hand - Care for the Land!" encourages everyone to make a positive difference in their world. Woodsy Owl was created by the US Forest Service and these educational programs are brought to you by forest service partners- FIND Outdoors.



**Story Time:** *Pitter & Patter* by Martha Sullivan

Watch Stephanie read this story here: <https://youtu.be/YCWjtm9DJ-0>

### What is the Water Cycle?

The earth has a limited amount of water. This water keeps going around and around in what we call the **water cycle**. When the sun heats the water in the lakes, streams, oceans, etc. some of it turns to a gas (water vapor). This is called **evaporation**. This invisible water vapor is light and rises into the air.

When the water vapor hits the cold air high up in the atmosphere it turns back to water droplets and collects in clouds. This is called **condensation**.

When too many water droplets form in a cloud, the cloud gets heavy and the water falls back to the earth in the form of rain, hail, sleet, or snow. This is called **precipitation**.

When the water falls back to the earth, it may fall back in the streams, lakes, ocean, etc. or it may fall on the land. This is called **collection**. When it falls on the land, it either soaks into the

earth for plants to drink or runs over the soil and back into the streams, lakes, oceans, etc. and the cycle begins all over again.

## Exercise: Rain Sound & Movement

This exercise signifies a rainstorm starting soft, getting louder and louder until it is pouring, with lightning and thunder, and then the calm after the storm when it is quiet again. Lead your child in this fun movement and sound exercise.

1. First you silently rub your fingers together, and the students do the same.
2. Then you rub your two hands together, making a very soft sound, and the students follow.
3. Next you very softly clap your hands together while the students follow, it should still be quiet.
4. Then snap your fingers.
5. Now go back to clapping and clap a little louder than you were snapping.
6. Then a little louder.
7. Then clap loudly.
8. Then stomp your feet and clap, making a lot of noise.
9. Now do it in reverse until it is silent again.

## Experiment: Water Cycle Baggie

### Materials Needed:

- Ziploc baggie
- tape
- blue food coloring (optional)
- marker
- water

### Directions:

1. Draw water, a cloud, and a sun on the Ziploc baggie with a marker.
2. Add water to the baggie to your drawing of the water & add a few drops of blue food coloring.
3. Close bag and tape to a sunny window.
4. Then wait, check on your bag throughout the day and see the water cycle in action!



This experiment allows your child to observe the water from the bag evaporating, condensing, falling like precipitation, and collecting again at the bottom. Notice that the water does not stay blue once it evaporates. This is because the food coloring is heavier than the water vapor and thus stays down, much like the salt from the ocean water.

## Experiment: Make it Rain!

### Materials Needed:

shaving cream

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- small glass
- medium glass
- straw or eye dropper
- blue food coloring
- water



### Directions:

1. Place approximately 3 tablespoons of water in the small glass and add about 10 drops of blue food coloring.
2. Fill the medium glass with water. Add 1-3 inches of shaving cream to the top. The more shaving cream used the longer the experiment will last.
3. Add the colored water to the shaving cream drop by drop using an eye dropper or by dipping the straw in the colored water, placing your finger over the end, holding it over the shaving cream, and lifting your finger enough to allow drops of colored water to drip onto the shaving cream.
4. Continue dropping the water onto the shaving cream until you observe it getting too heavy and “rain” starting to come out below. Depending on the amount of shaving cream used, this could take anywhere from 40-100 drops.

This experiment demonstrates what happens in the clouds during the water cycle. When a cloud accumulates too many water droplets they fall in the form of precipitation. In the experiment, after a certain point the shaving cream can no longer absorb the water drops and gravity pulls them down into the water.

## Craft: Water Cycle Circle Book

Here is a link to a free color, cut & paste from Kindergarten Mom

<https://www.kindergartenmom.com/wp-content/uploads/KMOM/EarthDay/EarthWaterCycle.pdf>