

Word Clouds



Preschool Storytime; Cloud Dreams

January 31, 2013, 10:30-11 a.m.

Books

Barrett, Judi. *Cloudy with a chance of meatballs*.
Atheneum, 1978. Life is delicious in the town of Chewandswallow where it rains soup and juice, snows mashed potatoes, and blows storms of hamburgers--until the weather takes a turn for the worse.

P BARRETT

Field, Eugene. *Wynken, Blynken, and Nod*.
Illustrated by David M. McPhail. A classic lullaby poem about three fishermen who try to catch the stars in nets of silver and gold.

P FIELD

Niemann, Christoph. *The police cloud*.
Schwartz & Wade Books, c2007. Scholastic, c2009. A small cloud that has always dreamed of becoming a police officer discovers that he might not be suited to the job.

P NIEMANN

Wiesner, David. *Sector 7*.
Clarion Books, c1999. While on a school trip to the Empire State Building, a boy is taken by a friendly cloud to visit Sector 7, where he discovers how clouds are shaped and channeled throughout the country.

P WIESNER

Rhymes

Sometimes I lie / in the grass, And I look at the clouds up high,
And I dream I am riding / a big white horse,
And I'm galloping over the sky.

Jill Eggleton

Little Bo-Peep has lost her sheep,
And can't tell where to find them;
Leave them alone, and they'll come home,
Wagging their tails behind them.

Little Bo-Peep fell fast asleep,
And dreamt she heard them bleating;
But when she awoke, she found it a joke,
And they stood around her eating.

Mother Goose

What did I dream? I do not know;
The fragments fly like chaff. Yet strange my mind
Was tickled so, I cannot help but laugh.

Traditional

Friday night's dream, on Saturday told,
Is sure to come true, be it never so old.

Traditional



Every Child Ready to Read; 5 Practices

Singing, Reading, Playing, Talking and Writing are five practices that are a natural way to nurture early literacy.

- Singing slows words down so children hear the smaller sounds in words
- Shared interactive reading is the most important way to help a child get ready to read
- Pretending (like using a block for a phone) uses the same concept as using words to represent ideas
- Open-ended questions and waiting for answers encourages children to talk.
- Scribbles, drawing, painting, recognizing the letters in their name, and making books all nurture writing.

Try these at home:

- Make up songs spelling your child's name, or for your address or phone number. Use a familiar tune like "B*I*N*G*O" or "Happy Birthday to You"
- Share nursery rhyme books; notice words that start with the same sound or rhyme.
- Play "I Spy" using concepts (color, shape, size, texture, spatial relationships like above/below, opposites, number and quantity) combined with letter sounds and rhymes. "I spy something blue that rhymes with 'tower'"
- Fingerprint in the bathtub or on the inside of the dishwasher door for easy clean up!

Dream Activities

Babies dream even before they are born, but until children are 5-7 years old their dreams may be more like random images. Children that age are still learning the difference between real and not real.

Preschool children thrive when they can experience new materials, roles, ideas, and activities—especially in pretend play. Dramatic play with toys, puppets, dress-up, or acting is how children understand and express feelings and experiences, including those from dreams.

Resist the urge to interpret or ignore dreams. This is a perfect opportunity to practice open-ended questions, listening skills, and encourage imaginative play. –

- How did you feel about the dinosaur in your dream?
- What if it was wearing a pink tutu?
- What do you think your dinosaur puppet would say to the dream dinosaur?
- Let's get out the crayons and make dinosaur pictures!

"Cloud Sand" Recipe

Mix together:

- 4 cups sand
- 2 cups cornstarch
- 1 cup of water



Enjoy for sensory play. Molds well, and if left in sun will crumble beautifully and reconstitute with water.