

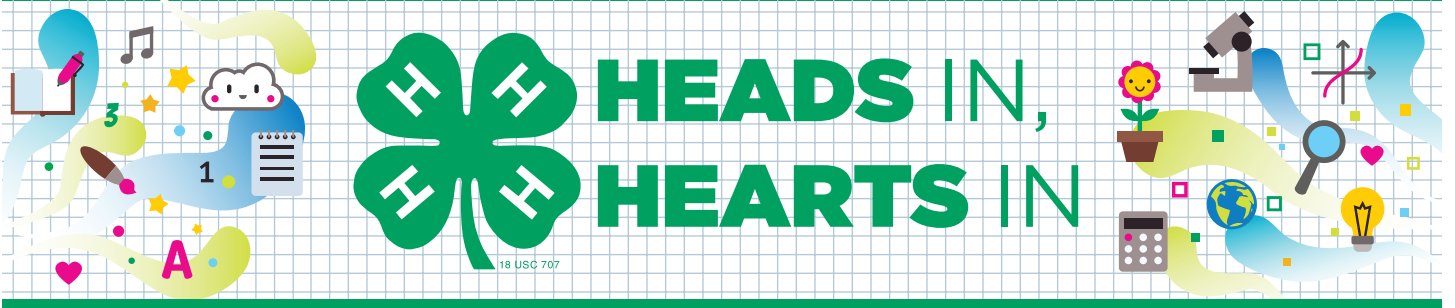
Supplies

- “Guide for Families” handout
- Clear plastic standup display (optional)
- Water
- Clear cups or jars
- Shaving cream
- Liquid food coloring
- Display table

Activity Preparation

- ▶ Find or purchase items on supply list.
- ▶ Print one copy of the “Guide for Families” handout. Laminate or place in a clear plastic standup display to allow participants to see it more readily.
- ▶ Set up the display table with needed supplies.





Colorful Rain

Guide for Families

Learning Objectives

What you need to know:

Clouds are made of lots of tiny particles. Water or ice collect on the particles. When enough water or ice collect and become heavy enough, the particles fall to the earth as precipitation. Precipitation can be snow, rain, sleet, freezing rain or hail.

What you will do and learn:

You will discover how water collects in clouds and falls to the ground.

Instructions

1. Fill a clear cup half full with water.
2. Squirt a small amount of shaving cream on top of the water, enough to cover the top of the water completely. This creates a cloud.
3. Add food coloring, drop by drop, on top of the shaving cream. How many drops do you think it will take to fall through the cloud of shaving cream?
4. Wait and see what the weight of the food coloring will do to the cloud.

The water represents the air and the shaving cream represents a cloud. When the food coloring is added to the shaving cream, one drop at a time, it becomes heavy enough to fall through the shaving cream. This is similar to when water droplets fall from a cloud.