

The
Early Years Count
Literacy
Connection



**Drop: An
Adventure
Through the
Water Cycle**

Written and illustrated by
Emily Kate Moon

Overview of Book

Join Drop as she describes her life as part of Earth's greater water cycle. Read about how weather and clouds move and change, as well as how plants, animals and people use the same water that the dinosaurs used!

Genre: Non-fiction, picture

Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some words from *Drop* to introduce in your classroom:

cycle	currents
bedrock	energy
glacier	groundwater

Each time you read the book, choose 2 or 3 words to highlight.

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or the illustrations to help children gain an understanding of each word's meaning.

Use these new words throughout the day, reminding the children, "That's a word from our story!"

Connecting with the HighScope Curriculum

COR Advantage 1.5

Approaches To Learning
Item B (*Problem solving
with materials*)

Mathematics Item W (*data
analysis*)

Science and Technology
Item BB (*Observing and
classifying*) Item CC
(*Experimenting, predicting,
drawing conclusions*), Item
DD (*Natural and physical
world*), Item EE (*Tools and
technology*)

Reading Tips

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. Each reading provides an opportunity to introduce new vocabulary words, pose open-ended questions, and engage children in activities that make the story "come alive."

Before reading, ask the children what they know about water. Create a K-W-L chart (what we Know, what we Want to know and what we Learned) about water and the water cycle. Write children's comments. No need to read this book all the way through- plan ahead for a few sessions, review and to add to the chart at each read aloud session. Read and stop often to ask questions like, "Drop has been on Earth a really long time. What has she seen?" and, "What do we know about snow/ice?"

Throughout the Routine

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

Use eyedroppers and water at **Small Group Time** along with a variety of materials to explore types of absorption.

Experiment at **Greeting Time** with long stemmed flowers in colored water to see if the colored water goes up the stem to the blossom. Children can predict if this will happen, and how long this will take.

Paint with water at **Outside Time**-watch for evaporation.

Around the Room

Highlight the book's content and build on the children's excitement in a variety of locations.

Place water and ice cubes in the **Sand and Water Area** for children to explore two different states of water at once.

Paint with ice cubes in the **Art Area**.

Make ramps in a in the **Block Area** (on towels or shower curtain). Encourage children to pour water down to observe flow and directions the water takes.

Have a globe or world map to show how much water is on the Earth.

Open-ended Questions

Enhance active engagement and early critical thinking skills by asking open-ended questions. These questions encourage children to explain why or how things happen, make predictions, or brainstorm possibilities rather than give one "right" answer.

Here are some questions you might ask for *Drop: An Adventure Through the Water Cycle*:

If you were Drop's friend, where would you want to be?

How would it be to be part of a cloud? Can you show me?

How does Drop get from the sky into this pear?

For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact
The Family Connection:

website—
www.famconn.org

Facebook—
@famconnsjc

phone—
574-237-9740

@ Home

Since many of the children in our county will have this book at home, use it as a way to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share *Drop: An Adventure Through the Water Cycle* with their child. Here's a sample message you can send:

As you and your child read about Drop and all she has seen and all she does, take breaks at parts of the book to talk about what you have read about. Ask you child what they know about rain, snow or clouds. Watch the sky and weather together and wonder, "Is Drop visiting? Where has she been?" Give time for your child to recall what they know as well as to create stories about "Drop". Walk under umbrellas in a rain and talk about what Drop and her friends have seen. "Is this puddle a puddle the dinosaurs splashed in?" When eating a juicy piece of fruit ask, "Was this the juice of a fruit a dinosaur ate?"