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* Cloud Art*

Description:

Observing clouds

Materials:

- Paper
- Pencil, crayons or markers
- Camera (optional)

Instructions:

- Lie on your back in your yard and watch the clouds
- What shape does the cloud look like? (elephant, tree, etc.)
- Draw the shape of the cloud and label what you think it looks like
- Ask other members of your family to look at the same cloud and see if they see the same shape as you or something different
- If you have a camera, take a picture of the cloud
- Send a copy of your picture to rschaaf@sals.edu or gal-director@sals.edu
- Check out our [GLOBE OBSERVER: CLOUDS](#) program and Visit [SciStarter Globe Observer](#) for details and sign up to record your sky observations and share with NASA.

Observations/Results:

- The clouds continually move across the sky. Why do you think that is?

- Does the cloud shape change as it moves across the sky? Why do you think that is?
- What color(s) are the clouds?

Science behind changing clouds:

Our earth rotates in such a way that it appears the sun rises in the east and sets in the west. In the same way, the clouds appear to move across the sky.

There are winds ever moving across the earth and through its atmosphere. These winds can change the shapes of the clouds as they pass by.

The earth's atmosphere refracts the light from the sun. When the sun is directly above us, it seems to be "clear". However, when the sun comes from an angle, like when it is rising or setting, the light rays come in from an angle and refract into the separate colors, like a rainbow. At sunrise or sunset, often the clouds and sky appear to be pink, blue, purple, green, orange or yellow.

Additional Cloud projects:

- [Cloud in a Jar](#)

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