

Cloud Matching Board Game

Background

According to the American Association for the Advancement of Science Benchmarks for Climate Literacy, section 4-b, by the end of fifth grade, students should understand how to clouds form. The National Science Education Standards (Content Standard D) maintains that as a result of their activities in grades K-4, all students should develop an understanding of properties of earth materials, objects in the sky, and changes in earth and sky. Clouds are one of those objects of study, and being able to identify not just their properties, but also their names. This game lets students test their memory, while learning to recognize cloud names and characteristics in a fun way.

How to Play

Mix up all pictures of clouds, and attach them to the board face down. Ask the student to select two cards at a time, and if they are a pair, the student can remove the cards from the board. If they do not match, ask the student to remember the cloud types and they look like, put them back, and pick up another two cards. Repeat until all of the cards have been removed from the board.

Suggested Introduction

Have you learned about clouds in school? Why do you think clouds are important?

Today we are going to try to learn/review cloud types by playing a game you may have played before – memory. (Explain how to play game).

So, remember, the better you remember the cloud names and cloud characteristics, the easier it will be to remember their location and match them!

Suggested Conclusion

Good Job! Memorizing cloud types and characteristics isn't something you just have to do in school or to play a game. There are a lot of scientists at NASA who get to look and identify clouds all day long so that everyone else knows how the weather might change tomorrow, or the climate might change in the future.