

# #STEMstroll: The Water Cycle

alabama's first STEM preschool

## **Day 1:**

Find water in all forms. Take pictures of different forms of water.

Get some old paint brushes and buckets of water and make water pictures on your sidewalk or driveway. Take pictures of your water art!

Upload these pictures on FB and Instagram @auburndayschool #STEMstroll #Waterart

## **Day 2:**

The sun powers the water cycle. Shadow Discovery- On your stroll today, find shadows and talk about how shadows are made. Create a shadow and ask children, "What do you need to create a shadow?" The answer is a light, an object, and a place for the shadow to fall.

Take pictures of shadows and upload them on FB and Instagram @auburndayschool #STEMstroll #sunandshadows

Extension Shadow Activities: Use sidewalk chalk and trace your shadow or the shadow of something else on your sidewalk or driveway. Can you do this by yourself? Why or why not? Could you trace a shadow at night? Why or why not?

At night, find a flashlight and explore the shape of a shadow by moving the light *closer* to the object or *farther* away from the object. Keeping the light steady, move the object closer or further to the wall or the floor.

Tell us about your investigations @auburndayschool #STEMstroll #sunandshadows

## **Day 3:**

Do you remember how clouds are formed from our Water Cycle Lessons? Clouds contain water that has evaporated from the earth. The water vapor gets cold and turns back into liquid and forms clouds. On your stroll today, stop and look up at the clouds. Notice their color, shape and size. Does a cloud look like something you've seen before? Walk for a minute and then stop and look at the clouds again. Do they look the same? If they've changed, why do you think they look different? Where did the ones you saw before go?

Take a picture of 3 of your favorite clouds and tell us what you think they look like. Upload these pictures on FB and Instagram @auburndayschool #STEMstroll #clouds

## **Day 4:**

Do you remember how water evaporates? The sun shines on the water and heats it up. After it is heated, it turns into water vapor or steam and then rise to the sky!

There's a fairy tale about a brother and sister who took a stroll through the woods. To make sure they knew how to return, they dropped small pieces of bread to show where they had been. They would later use these bread crumbs as a trail to return home.

Today, take a squirt bottle (this could be one of your drinking bottles that has a spout or a recycled squirt bottle) and make a water trail as you walk. Be careful how much your squirt out...you want to make sure it will last the whole walk! You may want to practice on your sidewalk before you take your stroll. As you stroll, leave a trail of water and then follow it to get back home.

When you were walking back home, were you able to follow your water trail? Why or why not? If your water was gone, what happened to it? This is evaporation. The water heats up and forms into gas. The gas rises to the sky and turns into clouds.

Extension: Did you walk by any ponds, lakes or streams? Does the size of the body of water stay the same or change? Why? What happens?

Upload photos of your adventures on FB and Instagram @auburndayschool #STEMstroll #evaporationinvestigation

## **Day 5:**

Air can move things. Choose this #STEMstroll on a day that is windy. Ask your child to wave their hands around in the air. What did it feel like? What was making that feeling? Can you hold the air in your hands? Can you see the air? When you walk today, look and listen for signs of wind; bending branches, blowing leaves, moving trees, clouds floating. Notice how the signs stop and start. The wind does not stay the same. Have you noticed when the wind blows fast and slow? How does it change your environment?

Extension: Using a bubble solution, teach your child how to dip an object in the solution and blow to make bubbles. Experiment with blowing fast and slow. Which works better when blowing bubbles?

Take videos of signs of wind and upload your video on FB and Instagram @auburndayschool #STEMstroll #blowininthewind