

How do clouds stay up?



Firstly we need to find out some things about water

Have you seen a spider's web looking like this one?



Or a droplet of water caught in a leaf?



What happens if two droplets run into each other?

Explore, Observe, Record

Dip a straw into a beaker of water and trap some water inside by putting a finger over the end.

Drop water droplets onto a penny.
Draw or record your observations.

Why don't clouds fall out of the sky?

A cloud is made of tiny water droplets.



They are too light to be pulled to the ground.



The droplets of water join up – just as they did on the penny.

As it rains, the cloud shrinks.



Once the water is gone, there is no more cloud.

What happens to the cloud after it rains?



You may not see it shrinking because clouds are moving, blown along by the wind.

The sky darkens...



Big droplets are pulled to the ground by gravity.



But you might see a rainbow!

