

Air Is Everywhere

Theme

Air, Weather, and Seasons

Purpose

To discover that air is everywhere, has weight, and takes up space.

Materials

- "Air Is Everywhere" reproducible
- chart paper
- markers
- cup
- drinking glass
- empty water bottle
- child's shoe

Procedure

1. Write the lyrics to "Air Is Everywhere" on a chart, or use the reproducible to make an overhead transparency of the poem.
2. Display an empty cup, a glass, a bottle, and a child's shoe. Invite children to tell what is in each subject.
3. Ask: "What is all around you? Can you see it?" Have children move their hands quickly, and then ask what they feel.
4. Explain that air is in the room and fills each of the "empty" containers. Air has weight and fills the space until something else is put in the container.
5. Hold up the child's shoe and review what is in it. Have a child put his or her foot in the shoe. Ask: "What is in the shoe now?"
6. Display and read together the "Air Is Everywhere" poem chart. Conclude that air is all around us.

Extension

Use a pan-balance scale and two identical balloons to demonstrate that air has weight. Ask a volunteer to place a deflated balloon in each pan and observe that the balloons have the same weight. Ask another child to inflate one of the balloons and then tie it closed. Do the balloons still weigh the same amount? Why not? What does this tell you about air?