

The *Building Science Concepts Water and Weather*, Book 31

An example of an online interactive animation that we used was:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/materials/changing_states/play/

I found this activity to be extremely useful in aiding cognitive development specifically related to the content inside *Weather and Water*. The activity draws upon presumed prior knowledge whilst extending their scientific understanding by using objects that are used in communities everyday.

The activities throughout *Water and Weather* were shaped on the principles set out by the Ministry of Education specifically in *The New Zealand Curriculum*. The activities are built around the fundamental building blocks of learning science in New Zealand- the Nature of Science and the strands within it. The following academic online resource provides information as to why this *Building Science Concepts* book is not only still relevant but is an essential tool that can be used when teaching about the Water Cycle and the atmosphere:

<http://www.sciencelearn.org.nz/Nature-of-Science/Reasons-for-teaching-the-nature-of-science>

BBC. (2013). KS2 Bitesize: *Changing states*.

Retrieved from: http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/materials/changing_states/play/

Science Learning Hub. (2013). *Reasons for teaching the nature of science*.

Retrieved from: <http://www.sciencelearn.org.nz/Nature-of-Science/Reasons-for-teaching-the-nature-of-science>

This animation helps to clarify concepts and reiterate understanding for children that clouds are not bags of water there is a cycle involved.

<http://earthguide.ucsd.edu/earthguide/diagrams/watercycle/>

When children can link how clouds are made even in a small scale they still have knowledge, dependent on their prior knowledge that is being built on. They can in turn make new meaning out of this and apply it to their world.

This is another site that is great for following up once children have developed ideas and have knowledge about how clouds are made.

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/srh/jetstream/clouds/cloudwise/>

This site goes into detail about what types of clouds there are and the different levels they are in the sky.

This article supports how rain is formed on a large scale.

http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/encyclopedia/rain/?ar_a=1

This gives a more detailed explanation that could be used to better help the teacher understand. Exerts from this could also be given to children that already have an extensive understanding of the topic.