

My Weather Watch Calendar



Numeracy for home and school

My Weather Watch Calendar helps children create a data set by observing the weather. All Reception children in Wales receive the resource as part of the Pori Drwy Stori programme run by BookTrust Cymru. We recommend families use the calendars over October half-term.



Top tips for teachers

- Introduce My Weather Watch Calendar with a school activity before sending the resource home. You could complete a weather watch as a class the week before October half-term.
- Communicate to families that the resource is part of Pori Drwy Stori, a home-school learning programme run by BookTrust Cymru. Let them know that the calendar is one of six resources they'll receive to help them support their child develop their literacy and numeracy skills at home. This will help encourage families to re-visit previous activities. A Rhyme Challenge celebration before half-term offers a good opportunity to give out the calendar to families and explain the programme.
- Every calendar contains a certificate that you can award after half term. Many parents find their child is highly motivated by the resource going back to school for an award ceremony.



Benefits for families*

Families enjoy the activity together

The resource is a fun, easy way to support numeracy in the home. The flexibility of the calendar means that parents and carers can create a variety of activities for children – such as going outdoors and finding puddles to splash in or leaves to kick!

Children develop understanding of time

Checking the weather over a week helps develop children's ability to sequence days of the week, sequence dates, and differentiate between morning and afternoon. The activity can also give families the opportunity to discuss months, seasons and how to read a clock.

Children develop vocabulary and recall

The resource encourages parents and carers to help children develop their vocabulary for sequencing (e.g. yesterday, today, tomorrow) and comparative vocabulary (e.g. more/less, hotter/colder). The calendar also helps children recall activities over the week.

Children develop independence

Repeating the activity over a week helps children gain independence by repeating and practising the tasks.

Families revisit The Rhyme Challenge

Parents link My Weather Watch Calendar to The Rhyme Challenge which encourages them to revisit Pori rhymes about the weather such as 'Incy Wincy Spider' and 'Y Tywydd'.

Increases parents and carers confidence

The resource can help give parents and carers new ideas for ways to support numeracy, such as sharing a home calendar with their child and telling the time together.



**BookTrust Cymru surveyed and interviewed more than 45 parents and carers from five different schools to find out how they supported their children with the My Weather Watch Calendar resource and how children responded.*