



BACKYARD ADVENTURES

LITTLE LAB WEEK 9: RAINBOWS

EVER WONDER . . . WHAT CAUSES RAINBOWS?

What we learned this week:

- White light is made up of seven main colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet.
- When light is bent, by raindrops or bubbles for example, the colors pop out.
- Rainbows exist in lots of places -- not just the sky. You can make them too!

Curiosity Circle

This week, Captain Curiosity had lots of questions about a rainbow he had seen while out squirrel watching! We got busy learning all about rainbows, and learned that we could make our own rainbows with a prism or bubbles! We also explored the answers to these “Ever wonder?” questions: **Ever wonder what colors form a rainbow?** Rainbows have seven main colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. You can remember these colors by memorizing the name “Roy G. Biv” – each letter of the name stands for a rainbow color! **Ever wonder what causes rainbows?** Rainbows in the sky are caused by two things: raindrops and sunlight. Although sunlight usually looks white to us, it’s really a bunch of different colors all mixed together. Sometimes, the raindrops in the air bend the white light causing all of the



colors to pop out! **Ever wonder why rainbows in the sky are curved?** The shape of rainbows has a lot to do with the shape of raindrops, which are also curved! **Ever wonder if rainbows can form in places other than the sky?** Rainbows don’t always appear in the sky. For example, you might see a rainbow in the air around a waterfall, where there are lots of water droplets in the air. You can also see rainbows in the sides of bubbles, which act a lot like raindrops. You can even make your own rainbows using a tool called a “prism.” Prisms were invented by scientists to bend light like raindrops do.

Curiosity Centers

- ◆ **Discovery Activity:** we blew bubbles and looked for the rainbows in them.
- ◆ **Manipulative Activity:** we put together rainbow and cloud puzzles on the magnet board. We also played a really fun game of rainbow hopscotch to help us learn the names and order of the colors.
- ◆ **Art Activity:** we made a cloud and rainbow picture to remind us how rainbows are made.



The Big Deal

We created our own rainbow in class and we also played a fun game of Rainbow Red Rover!

Hey, Hey Word of the Day: INDIGO

Curiosity @ Home



This week at home, talk about colors and rainbows. Can you make a rainbow out of clothes in the laundry? Can you find the color indigo (bluish-purple)? Make a bubble bath and look for rainbows in the bubbles. If you have a prism (or can borrow one) or faceted crystals, experiment with making rainbows on the wall. Use your take-home chalk to make rainbow art or create a game of rainbow hopscotch on your driveway or sidewalk.

Songs & Poems

C-Zone Song (to the tune
"I'm a Little Teapot")
Welcome Song
Welcome to the C-Zone
It's time for us to start
Exploring and learning
We've all got a part
(Spoken) So let's fasten up our
lab coats and get curious!

Song to the Captain (to the
tune "Wheels on the Bus):
(Sing) Rainbows form when light is
bent (What?)
Light is bent (What?)
Light is bent (What?)
Rainbows form when light is bent
(What?)
Through water in the clouds.

Rainbows form in bubbles too
(What?)
Bubbles too (What?)
Bubbles too (What?)
Rainbows form in bubbles too
(What?)
Now who wants to tell the captain?

One Little Cloud (to the tune
"10 Little Indians")
One little,
Two little
Three little raindrops
Four little
Five little
Six little raindrops
Seven little
Eight little
Nine little raindrops
Bending light, making rainbows!

C-Zone Goodbye Song
Goodbye from the C-Zone
It's time for us to go
The learning never stops
Now tell me what you know!

R

IS FOR RAINBOW

