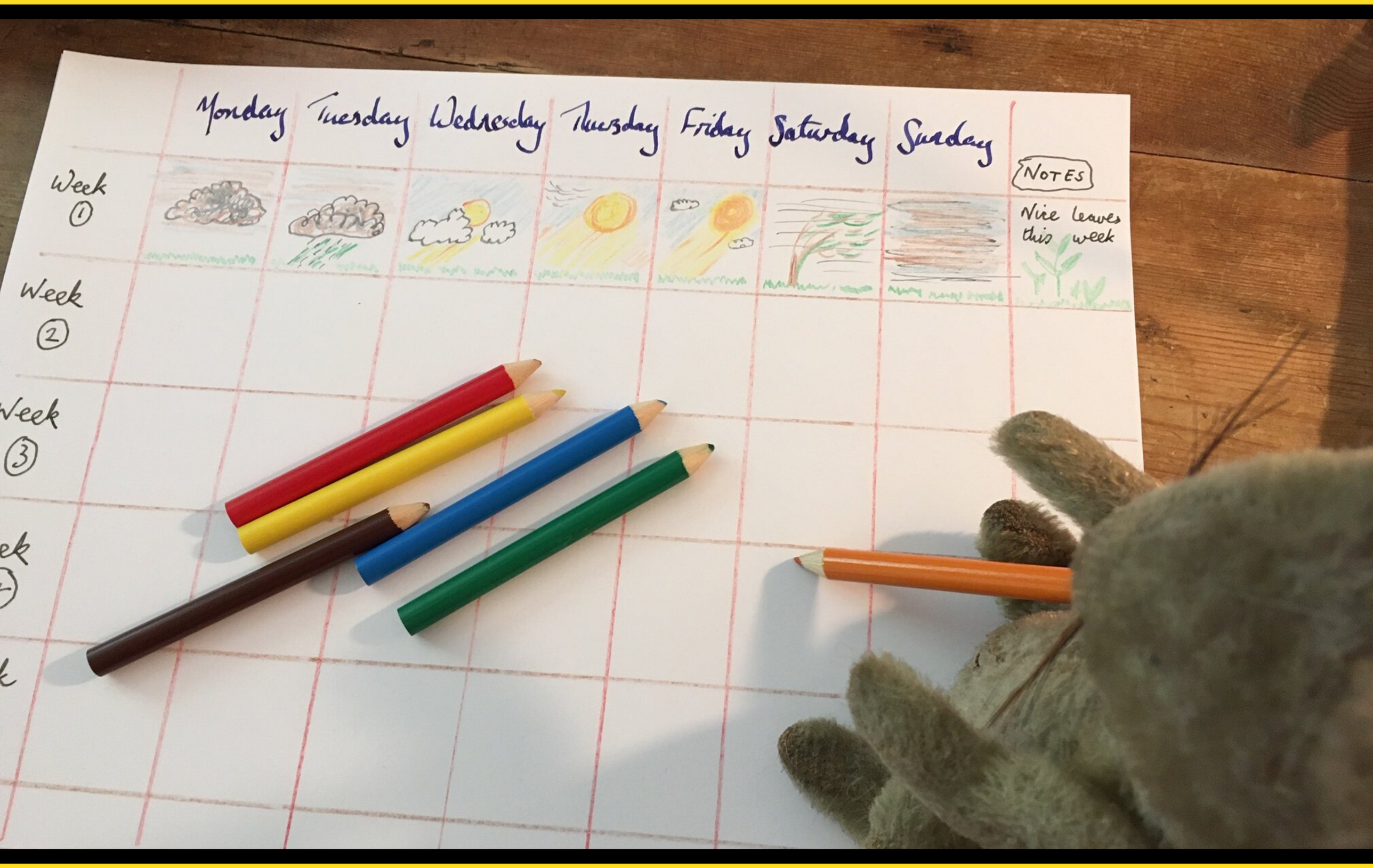
WABBIT'S ADVENTURES IN THE GARDEN

Wabbit watches the clouds - Activities

Written and produced by Ignite!

Weather Diary



Wabbit decided to keep a weather diary to keep track of what was happening outside.

He started by drawing a calendar, with spaces for each day of the month. Then, on each day he drew a picture of what the weather was like.

What would you draw if it was a sunny day? Or if it rained? Or if it was cloudy and windy?

How might a weather diary change over the year? When might there be lots of sun drawings, and when might there be lots of rain drawings, or even snow?

Weather Station

Did you know that you can make a simple weather station with everyday items at home?

Wabbit decided to make a rain gauge so he could measure how much rain falls each day.

Would you like to make one?

This is what you will need.

A plastic see through container – it is important that it has straight sides and a flat bottom.

A sharp knife/scissors – ask a grown up to help.

A ruler and a pen – one that doesn't wash off if it gets wet.

Wabbit chose a small plastic container from the bathroom. I cut the top off the container with a sharp knife and then made sure the top was level with a pair of scissors. I didn't want Wabbit using the knife or the scissors, so I did that bit for him.

Wabbit then measured the side of the container and made marks every 5 millimetres.

He used a red pen that doesn't rub out or wash away when it gets wet. This was quite tricky, so I helped him with this bit too... you might ask a grown up to help you.

Wabbit then decided where to place the rain gauge in the garden. He didn't want it buried in the ground because he knew rain would splash into the gauge. And he didn't want the gauge to fall over so he put it on a flat brick and stuck it down with some BluTak and sticky tape.

Every day that it rained, or even when it was drizzling, Wabbit could measure how much rain collected in the rain gauge. The 5mm marks helped him measure the exact amount, which he wrote down in his weather dairy.

And he remembered to empty the gauge every day and put it back in the same place. Why would that be important?

Wind Sock

A wind sock can tell you where the wind is coming from and how strong it is.

Wabbit made a simple windsock from some recycled packaging.

Some people need to know how strong the wind is – like sailors at sea, or people who climb ladders. Can you think of others?

You can also measure how strong the wind is by looking at the trees.
If nothing is moving at all, not even the leaves, then it is still. Wabbit says that is 0 on the wind scale.

If the leaves are trembling or shaking, like fingers dancing in the blue sky, that is a score of 1 or 2.

If the twigs are moving that could be a 3 or 4.

If the branches are moving and swaying from side to side, the wind is getting stronger; that could be a 5 or 6 on the wind scale.

And if the whole tree is moving and swaying, the wind is very strong. Wabbit says that is a gale and could be 7 or 8 on the wind scale.

Any stronger than that, say 9 or 10, it is a storm, and sometimes branches might tear from the tree. It is better to stay indoors when the wind is stormy. Wabbit creeps underground when it is stormy.

Wabbit likes it when he can fly his kite. You could make a note about how strong the wind is on your weather diary.

This book was written and produced by Ignite! as part of a series for the StoryParks 2020 project, supported by Nottingham City Council and The Nottingham Building Society.

These activities are an extension of the storybook, and designed to help families think of ways to observe and get curious about the clouds, the weather and how they affect the garden.

Find out more about StoryParks at www.storyparksnottingham.com or @StoryParks

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