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**Investigation and Problem Solving**

Ages 4-5

The books and activities in this kit are designed to encourage investigation and teach and enhance problem solving skills.

**Informational Guide**

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**Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs by Judi Barrett**

Supporting Books:

*Puddle by Hyewon Yum*

*The Cow Who Climbed a Tree by Gemma Merino*

*Once Upon an Alphabet by Oliver Jeffers*

*Star Stuff: Carl Sagan and the Mysteries of the Cosmos by Stephanie Roth Sisson*

**Explore**

Questions:

1. What would it be like to live in Chewandswallow?
2. What kind of “rain” would be your favorite?
3. Do you think it would hurt to get hit by a meatball?
4. Why was the food getting bigger a problem?
5. Do you think bread makes a good raft?
6. What else could they have used to get away?
7. The grandfather made up a story based on something that happened at breakfast. Have you ever had something happen that made you think of a story? A memory? What was it?

Manipulatives:

* Mirrors
* Flashlights
* Scarves

Play with the flashlights, mirrors and scarves. What happens when you shine the light through a scarf? I wonder if you can bounce the light off a mirror? What if you put a scarf over the mirror? Be careful not to shine the light in anyone’s eyes. Can you make up a story about a town where the sun is a flashlight and ...?

**Create**

What kind of weather would you like if you could make it do whatever you wanted. Using the materials provided, create a rainstorm in your town.

Supplies:

* Construction paper
* Ribbon
* Q-tips
* Cotton balls
* Pompoms
* Tissue paper squares
* Leaves, sticks
* Paper plates

**Share**

What does it rain in your town? Tell about your rain