

Clouds web case transcription - full episode

Mr. M: I've been thinking- Thank you Nathaniel. You know I've been looking at all of your science for the last couple of weeks, you know when Miss Lama was here we were looking at all your writing and we were looking at your pictures. And I got this idea, and I got this sortof thought, some of you are really thinking about the cloud. So today I want to spend our time, I want to spend our time today, Kyle, and I would like for you to tell me about clouds. What do you know about clouds? Yes?

Alyssa: Umm-

Mr. M: Wait, wait, wait. 'Cause I'm going to ask- Nathaniel. At some point today I'm going to ask you to go back, to your seat and draw for me what you think happens, in a cloud.

Mr. M: I wanna know, I wanna know, Nathaniel, I wanna know really clearly, how is it that a cloud rains? So I'm going to start over here with Alyssa, who's got her hand up, and,

Mr. M: I want to be able to get out of the middle here, K Nathaniel, would you go back to your seat? Tell me about it. (pointing to Alyssa)

Alyssa: Well clouds get water-

Mr. M: Ssh, I'm listening.

Alyssa: from the air. like the cloud gets the water from the air that has always been there and um the cloud when it get- it holds the water till it turns grey and then it rains, cause it gets too heavy.

Mr. M: It gets too heavy. How does it do that? Jordan?

Jordan: Um, I think, I agree with Alyssa, because if a cloud- well, I have a question.

Chris: Ok.

Jordan: What's in a cloud that makes it hold the water?

Alyssa: (whispering to Jordan) It just does it.

Student: Nnhhnn?

Jordan: Like, does it float?

Mr. M: Ooh I see a scrunchy face. What are you thinking about? Did you listen to her question? Could you say your question one more time Jordan?

Jordan: Why does- how could water be in a cloud without falling?

Mr. M: What do you think Brian? How does a cloud hold water?

Elea: (quietly) Yeah, cause it's as light as a feather.

Mr. M: What do you think?

Elea: I don't think it holds water.

Mr. M: What do you mean?

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Elea: It- It doesn't hold water.
Mr. M: What do you mean? Talk to us about that.
Elea: Heheh it can't hold water because it's such
(inaudible)
Mr. M: Hmm.
Kyle: Nope.
Jordan: I think if it could, it would be gas that would
be in the cloud and the water was already turned
into gas. So when it falls out, something happens
in it, and it turns back to water.
Brian: I think like the air is a gas, like one type of
gas, and the cloud is one type of gas and like-
and the air like slowly goes into the cloud.
Mr. M: And?
Ryan: And then it rains.
Mr. M: And then it rains. Sahara, did you hear what,
what Jordan or what-
Sahara: I didn't.
Mr. M: Jordan, could you say what you have said a minute
ago, one more time repeat it for us?
Jordan: What thing?
Mr. M: What you just said about the cloud. You think
that a cloud is what?
Jordan: I think that a cloud cannot hold all the water
because the water would be too heavy for a cloud,
and everyone thinks it's light, so, how can it
have all the water?
Mr. M: That's what we're asking, isn't it? Alyssa?
Alyssa: It gets the water- well it can hold as much as it
can, and then it turns to grey, and then, and
then it just drops it, and that's when it rains,
but um
Jordan: But what holds it?
Elea: Yeah, how does it hold it?
Alyssa: The cloud.
Jordan: How does a cloud hold it.
Elea: How? It's light.
Jordan: It doesn't have a magical wall holding it.
Elea: Yeah like- it doesn't have a patch under the cloud
so like to keep the water in.
Student: Yeah, I kindof agree.
Alyssa: It just holds as much as it can.
Jordan: But HOW without a wall or a patch under it.
Elea: How can it hold it?
Jordan: Does it like turn into gas? What does it do?
Elea: [giggles]
Student: [giggles]

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Nikita: How is a black cloud stronger than the white cloud?
Student: It doesn't hold water, (inaudible)
Elea: A black cloud-
Jordan: Yeah but-
Alyssa: It doesn't turn black until it holds the water
Elea: But but it turns black-
Jordan: But but a black cloud was originally a white cloud that got water in it so.
Student: Yeah, I don't get it.
Elea: Yeah
Alyssa: Yeah.
Elea: Yeah, so how does it hold water?
Jordan: So how does it hold it?
Kyle: (whispering) Low gravity.
Student: (softly) Close to the ground.
Elea: Low gravity?
Jordan: It's not gravity cause water can't go without gravity.
Alyssa: Wait.
Elea: (giggles)
Student: (giggles)
Elea: Gravity won't GO.
Chris: Okay guys, I have to tell you. What you guys just did is something I tried and tried and tried so much to get you guys to do.

[Break while teacher praises their work and encourages other students to join in]

Mr. M: Alright, let's see what you do. What are you thinking about with this idea of the cloud? How does the cloud hold the water?
Nikita: First I thought that the black cloud is stronger but now I agree with um-it was either Jordan or Alyssa who said it- it first turns out as a white cloud, so
Mr. M: Ok.
Alyssa: Um- it does. It gathers the water from the air and then it gets as much as it can and then it drops it and then it turns black.
Jordan: I don't understand, because she says it gathers all the water! How?
Alyssa: It sucks it up!
Jordan: How does it hold it though? That's the question,
Elea: It's really light.
Jordan: Not how does it go up- how does it hold it?
Student: Maybe the water is very light?

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Mr. M: Remember guys, I want- Notice that there's some other people, Nikita, there's some other people that wanna have a chance too. I saw Kyle's hand, Kyle whatcha wanna say?

Kyle: I was gonna say, the higher up in the sky there's not a lot of gravity. So the clouds are very high so it's just floating up there.

Jordan: How does it float?

Kyle: Cause there is no gravity!

Elea: It's not on water.

Jordan: How can it float?

Elea: It's not on water.

Kyle: There is no gravity-

Jordan: That doesn't make sense, like-

Alyssa: When you go through, like- I don't think it's that light. I think it's a little heavy, cause when you go through a cloud through an airplane it's bumpy.

Elea: Oh yeah!

Anthony: No but it, the cloud's made out of really thick air.

Jordan: How could air hold-

Anthony: It's like thick air, it's like air that like really thick and it goes (unclear)

Alyssa: Cause it's heavy!

Jordan: That doesn't answer the question. How can air hold it?)

Elea: One time I went into the airplane, it is bumpy when you go through a cloud, but! I still don't agree with Alyssa.

Jordan: I disagree.

Mr. M: Can you tell us if you're not- I appreciate you're putting out there, I don't agree with some of it, but tell us- can you give us why you don't agree?

Elea: Because a cloud is really light and it can't really hold anything, it's just like air, I guess if you could feel a cloud, it feels like air.