

Reading Thematic Overview

'Cloudy with a chance of meatballs' – Judi Barrett

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs by Judi Barrett is a whimsical and imaginative story about a town where food falls from the sky in extraordinary weather events, leading to hilarious and unpredictable consequences..

English

The story offers an engaging way to explore descriptive language and creative writing, as they can use vivid imagery to describe the fantastical weather events in the story. The book also encourages pupils to think critically about narrative structure, as they can discuss the sequence of events and create their own imaginative stories inspired by the unusual premise.

Music

Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs offers a fun opportunity to explore sound effects, as students can create and experiment with various noises that mimic the falling food, using instruments or everyday objects. Additionally, the book's imaginative setting encourages pupils to compose their own musical pieces that reflect the chaos and excitement of a world where food falls from the sky.

Geography

The book features various types of food that come from the sky, which can lead to discussions about food production, its origins, and farming practices. It encourages children to consider how food travels from farms to our plates, including the environmental factors that affect food sources. It can inspire conversations about landscapes and how they influence weather, which in turn can affect food availability.

Science

The book allows pupils to explore topics such as states of matter by examining how food might transform between solids, liquids, and gases in different weather conditions. Additionally, the book can spark discussions about nutrition and the impact of unusual food systems on the environment and human health.

ICT

Pupils begin to explore ICT by creating digital weather reports, where pupils can use presentation software or video tools to simulate forecasts for food-based weather.

History

The fun concept of food falling from the sky can spark conversations about flying and its development over time. Students can investigate the principles of flight, use their imaginations to invent new flying devices, and recognise that stories about flight existed long before actual flying machines were created. This narrative can also facilitate discussions about the history of aviation, from early flying devices to modern aeroplanes.

