

Cloud Cover Math

Name _____ Date _____

Current Weather _____

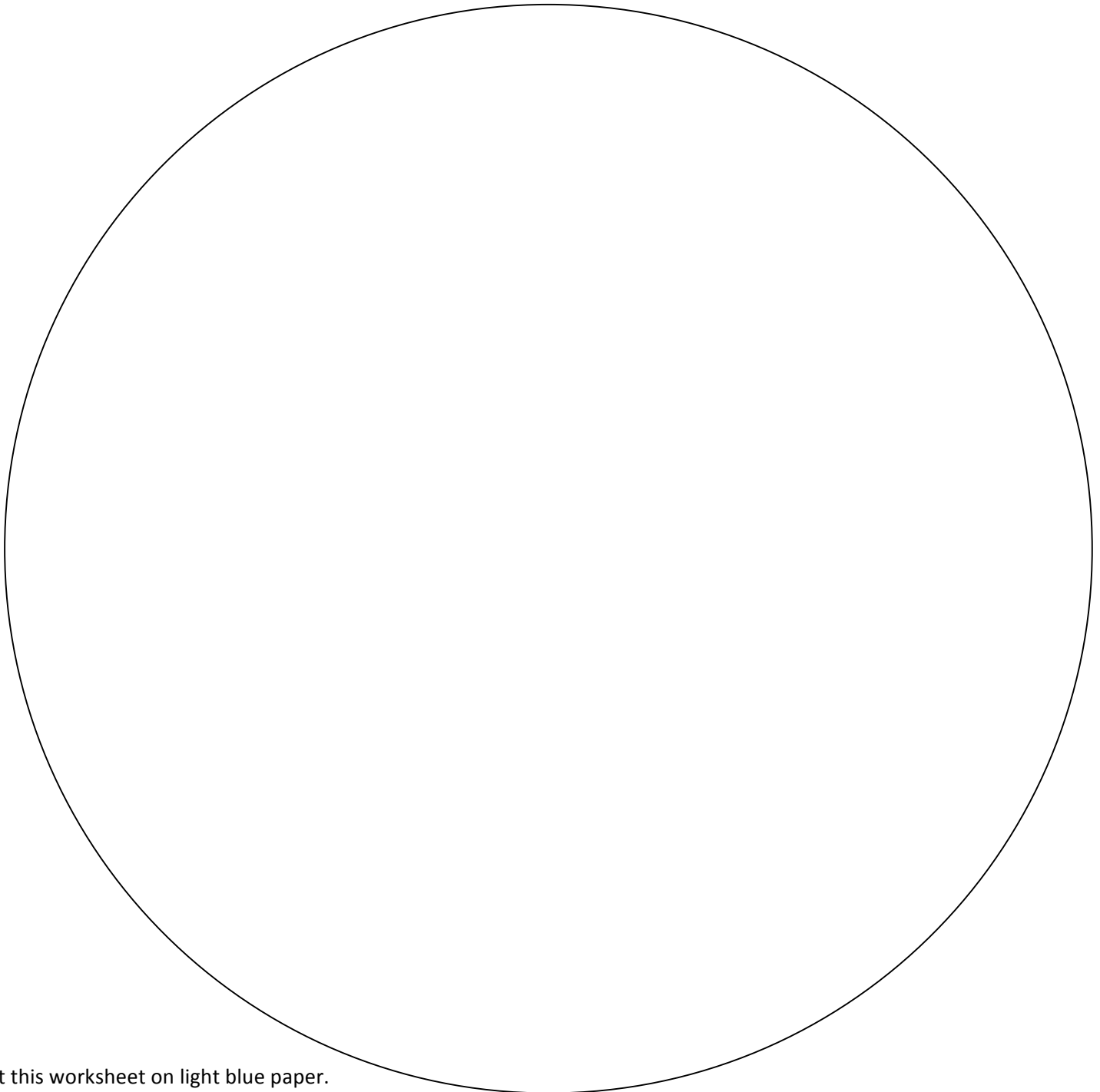
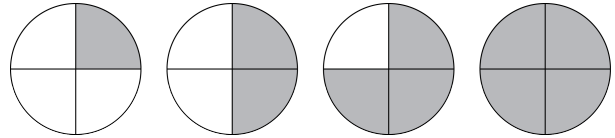
Cloud Coverage

Clear	Isolated	Scattered	Broken	Overcast
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Percentage of coverage _____

Fraction of coverage _____

Decimal expression _____



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Instructions:

1. Print worksheet on light blue copy paper and handout to students.
2. Hand out white circles made from an "Ellison die cut" 8 inch diameter circle.
Note: Your local public library may have an Ellison die cut room for teachers and scrap bookers (you will need to bring your own paper).
3. Students fold the white circle in half for 50 % and in half again for 25 % or 75 % cloud coverage.
Note: Explain to students that when they "fold something in half, they are measuring it." Students cut along the fold to get the different percentages. Recycle the percentages of paper not used.
4. Remind students that clouds are not arranged in wedges like pizza, so they will have to make their own cloud shapes. Students tear or rip the white portions to make interesting shapes or just in tiny pieces.
5. Glue the small white pieces of "clouds" onto the blue circles.
Note: This activity can get messy with the glue so remind them "dot, dot, not a lot" and "line, line, keep it fine."
6. When students complete their estimates of cloud cover, create a table on the board to compare the estimates with the actual percentages.

Name	Actual %	Underestimates	Correct Estimates	Overestimates
Name 1				
Name 2				

7. Tally the number of underestimates, overestimates, and correct estimates and discuss with the class the accuracy of their estimates and why there would be differences.

Resourceful Note: A teacher can reduce the number of white circles used by having students work together to make the 50 % pieces of clouds and then make the 25% and 75% pieces from one circle.

Percentage	Cloud Cover Classification	
	If less than percentage	If greater than percentage
0%	CLEAR	
25%	ISOLATED	SCATTERED
50%	SCATTERED	BROKEN
75%	BROKEN	
100%	OVERCAST	

*For exact percentages of cloud categories please see S'COOL Activity, Estimating Cloud Cover (http://scool.larc.nasa.gov/lesson_plans/globe-cloudcover.pdf).

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