

# The Cloud Factory

Created by Paul Stutzman

Illustrated by Wendy Leach





Copyright © 2021 by Paul Stutzman. All rights reserved.  
Illustrations by Wendy Leach. Copyright © Paul Stutzman









Meg watched the pale pink puffs float and waft and drift and shift. One cloud started as a perky puppy with long floppy ears then slowly became a rocket ship blasting into space. Meg snuggled close to her grandpa.

"Grandpa?" she asked. "Where do clouds come from?"





Grandpa pointed to a bright purple chimney waaaaayyyy on the other side of town. "See that terrifically tall tower?" Grandpa said. Meg did see it. The tower burped up one billowy shape after another. A pinwheel, then a humpback whale, a pirate ship, then a gigantic kettle pouring tea into a darling dainty cup.



"Every Monday, the Cloud Crew  
gathers for their  
Creative Cloud Conference  
to plan the schedule for  
the week.

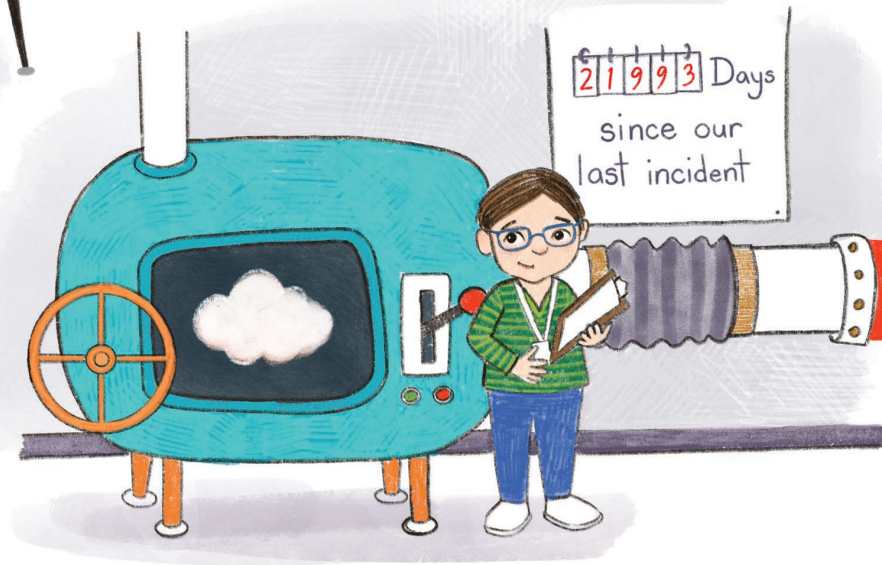






"Together, they decide which creatures and characters and objects and oddities will appear in the sky each second, minute, and hour of every day.

"They decide whether the clouds will be delicate or dense,



silky or scraggly,  
mammoth or minuscule.



"They decide when the sky will be bright and breezy,  
and when it will be bleak and blustery.



"When they have the schedule all figured out, the Supplies Squad trolleys into town to round up all of the ingredients they need to complete their creations.







"First, they pop into Pip's Pastry Shoppe and gather the goods needed to create the basic shape of the clouds. There, they fill their biggest trolley car with heaps of whipped cream, gobs of gooey icing, and scads of sparkly sugar cubes.



"Next, they swing by Kitty's Concessions for the big bags of cotton candy that give their clouds juuuuust the right amount of floofy fluffiness.

