

# Lion or Lamb?

## Lamb or Lion?

A lamb is gentle,  
Soft and sweet.  
It may greet you  
With a bleat! (Baa, Baa)  
A lion is fierce;  
It likes to prowl.  
It may greet you  
With a growl! (grr, grr)



Sung to : *Mary Had a Little Lamb*

March comes in like a lion,  
Like a lion, like a lion.  
March comes in like a lion,  
And goes out like a lamb.

March comes in with a great big wind,  
Great big wind, great big wind.  
March comes in with a great big wind,  
And goes out with a breeze.

When March comes in like a lion  
A lamb trots out, we hear.  
But when the lamb comes first, my friend,  
It's the roar going out that we fear!

So each and every boy and girl  
Should watch as March comes in;  
We'll know the way the month might end  
If we know the way it begins.

## Lamb or Lion

When March comes in gently  
With soft skies of blue  
And warm happy breezes  
And crocus buds, too,  
March begins like a lamb  
Sweet, gentle and kind.  
But you'd better beware  
For you'll surely find  
That the end of the month  
Will be stormy and cold.  
Like a lion it'll roar  
Rough, growly and bold.

If March begins windy  
And stormy and gray,  
If it's too cold outside  
To happily play,  
The lion's here first  
And he's not so nice.  
You should be indoors  
Take my advice.  
But wonderful weather  
Is coming, they say,  
By the end of the month  
The lamb's here to stay!

JR

March is here.  
and lions I fear,  
have blown all  
the lambs away!



March comes in  
Like a lion, they say,  
With brisk, chilly winds,  
Until one day  
The sun parts the clouds  
To announce, 'Here I am!  
And March goes out gently,  
Just like a lamb.



**March**  
March is blowing  
Huffity puff.  
March is showing  
Liony stuff.  
March is crying  
"I really am  
Trying to be  
An April lamb."

## Lion or Lamb for March?

- Discuss this saying and what lion or lamb days and weather would be like.

- This is good for prediction - have each child predict whether the saying will prove true this year.

- Make a special calendar and put a lion or lamb graphic on each date square depending on the weather. This could be done with the date on both the lions and lambs and one chosen for the day and put on a graph.

- Have a weather theme for March. Teach clouds, wind, the water cycle, etc.

- Have the children write whether they think they are more like a lion or a lamb.

- Make wooly lambs by taking bits of cotton batting and stretching it out, then 'painting' a small area of the lamb with glue and sticking on the cotton.



There are good graphic colouring sheets for the lamb and lion here:

[www.kinderart.com/kindercolor/print\\_lionlamb.shtml](http://www.kinderart.com/kindercolor/print_lionlamb.shtml)

**The old saying goes... if March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb.**

Talk to your children about what this might mean. What aspects of weather determine its ferocity or gentleness?

Draw a two column table on the chalkboard (or a piece of paper). Call one side LION and one side LAMB. List elements of weather like temperature, wind, rain, snow, etc., that fit on each side.

Do bit of math/graphing practice by adding a lion or lion choice to a graph.

Make a note at the top of the graph about whether March 1st is a lamb or a lion day. Then see if March 31st is the opposite.

If you want to throw in a bit of science, you can tell them that we're charting our **observations** to help prove or disprove the 'in like a lion, out like a lamb; in like a lamb, out like a lion' saying.

Predict the March weather. What is the probability of certain weathers?

Make a large March bulletin board with March weather - lions and lambs and the predictions of each child.

The lion and lamb can be a good incentive for learning weather patterns in spring. It also can teach graphing and prediction.

In older grades the lion and lamb can be used to teach similes. Make up other similes using the words 'like' or 'as'.



Talk about what lamb and lion weather might be. Can the children act it out?

"Using a lion and a lamb pattern, we predicted what we thought the weather would be on March 1st - a lion kind of day or a lamb day. We made a graph with the two pictures. I made one of the bulletin boards into a March calendar and each day of the month we will put up either a lion or a lamb. On the first the children will predict what they think most of the days in March will be like. At the end of the month we will be able to check out their predictions."

"I made a circle and decorated one side to look like a lion face and the other a lamb face. We decide every morning what the day is, and turn the circle to show what we think the day is - and then draw it onto the calendar."

"Go around your school with a tape recorder and record loud and soft sounds. Play the tape for the children. Have them tell you what each sound is and whether it is 'loud' or 'soft' - or like a lion or a lamb. Some examples might be a door banging, water running, children playing, soft music playing, a telephone ringing, and a bird chirping."

"Give the children light blue crepe paper to hold in their hands. Let them take turns racing across the room and flapping their streamers like strong 'lion' winds. Then have them walk back across the room, gently waving their streamers, like soft 'lamb'

breezes. Bring in a fan and talk about the wind."

Is the March Proverb true? 'If March comes in like a lion, it goes out like a lamb' or 'If March comes in like a lamb it goes out like a lion'.

Discuss the proverb with the class on March 1.

Describe your definition for lamb or lion weather. How can we call weather like a lion or a lamb?

Each day discuss weather, temperature etc. and decide whether today is a lion or a lamb day - record on a chart.

Predict the number of lion and lamb days and whether the proverb is true.

Count the number of lion/lamb days and make a graph.

Discuss the conclusions. Is the proverb true this year?

How can weather be like a lion or a lamb? Can you act like a lion and a lamb? What other animals can you imitate? (Tiptoe as quiet as a mouse, swing like a monkey, etc.)

## **March is the 'Windy Month'**

If you have a parachute at the school, have the children hold the edges and make the parachute show the lion and the lamb weather. The parachute can make winds, and the surface can look like the sea in the different winds.

What is wind? Can we see it? Can we feel it? Can we touch it?

Talk about the wind. Bring in a fan and turn it on at different levels so the children can feel it blowing slowly, medium, and fast. Read stories about the wind while the fan is blowing.

See if items in the classroom will blow in the wind.

Make door hangers with the saying, 'March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb' with a picture of the head of a lion: a circle is the face, then children wrap strips of paper around a crayon to make them curl, then glue the curls around the lion face.

The other side of the hanger is 'March comes in like a lamb and goes out like a lion' with the lamb: glue cotton balls to a black circle for the head and add black rectangles for legs. The children take their hangers home and hang them on a door. Have one in the classroom to change as the weather changes.

Make decorative kites. Have a real kite and go out to the playground to fly it on a windy day.

Use the saying, 'March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb' as a basis for discussing opposites.

"Incorporate a weather activity into your March lessons just to test the famous March saying. Brainstorm with students what aspects of weather determine its ferocity or calmness.

After listing things like temperature extremes and precipitation types and wind speeds, draw a calendar grid on the chalkboard or large sheet of paper, then each day, make about the weather. Review from week to week, then do a final observation at the end of the month.

Students can make graphs, vote each day a 'lion' day or 'lamb' day (using stickers or colouring with markers), write a short story about March including weather elements, have a meteorologist visit the classroom, or correspond with other classrooms via the internet to compare weather information with them. Save your calendar for next year, and you can make comparisons from year to year."

Bring in a fan and/or hair drier to talk about wind.

We made a rain gauge to record rain fall.

We made cloud shapes to go with *It Looks Like Spilt Milk* and then wrote about it.

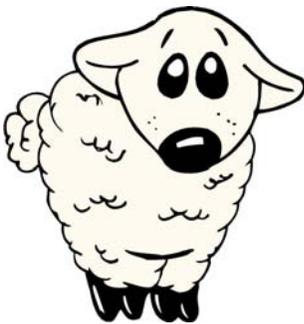
We had kite day and everyone flew kites.



<http://www.kidsrunning.com/publish/kpublish0301lion.html>

Here is a cute poem!

### A Lamb



Trace your hand with the fingers and thumb spread onto black construction paper and cut it out, rounding at the base of the palm. Turn the hand print so that the four fingers are down - these are the lamb's legs. The thumb is the neck and head. Now cover the body of the lamb with cotton batting, leaving the 'feet' and nose black. Glue on a black eye. These look very cute on a bulletin board.



To make lions, give the children paper plates, glue, 2-inch pieces of yellow yarn, and felt-tip markers. Have them make lion manes by gluing yarn pieces around the rims of their paper plates. Then let them draw lion faces on the centres of their plates with felt-tip markers. Attach popsicle stick handles to the backs of their plates to make lion puppets.

To make lambs, set out paper plates, cotton balls, glue, and felt-tip markers. Have the children glue cotton ball 'wool' around the rims of the paper plates. When they have finished, let them draw lamb faces on the centres of their plates with felt-tip markers. Attach popsicle stick handles to the backs of the plates to make lamb puppets.



[http://www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/march\\_weather.htm](http://www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/march_weather.htm)