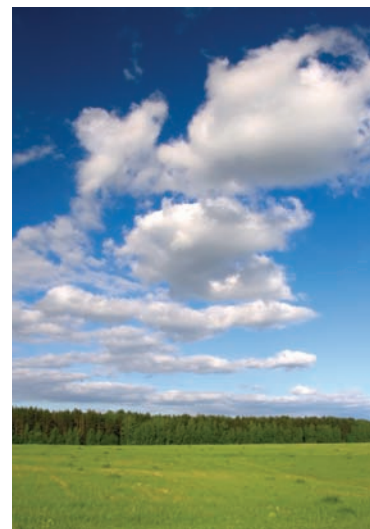


Weather and Climate

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Glossary

air mass (AIR MAS) a huge body of air that has similar temperature and humidity throughout (18)

air pressure (AIR PRESH-ur) the weight of air around Earth pressing down on Earth's surface (6)

anemometer (an-uh-MOM-uh-tur) a weather instrument used to measure wind speed (17)

atmosphere (AT-muh-sfeer) the blanket of air that surrounds Earth (4)

barometer (buh-ROM-uh-tur) a weather instrument used to measure air pressure (17)

cirrus cloud (SI-ruhs KLOWD) a high-altitude, wispy cloud composed of ice crystals (9)

climate (KLYE-muht) the average weather pattern in an area over a long period of time (22)

cold front (KOHLD FRUHNT) the boundary where a cold air mass meets and moves under a warm air mass (18)

condensation (kon-den-SAY-shuhn) the process by which a gas changes to a liquid (8)

cumulus cloud (KYOO-myuh-luhs KLOWD) a puffy cloud that appears to rise from a flat bottom (9)

evaporation (i-vap-uh-RAY-shuhn) the process by which a liquid changes to a gas (8)

fog (FOG) a cloud that forms at ground level (9)

front (FRUHNT) a boundary between two air masses of different temperatures (18)

humidity (hyoo-MID-i-tee) a measure of the amount of moisture in the air (5)

hurricane (HUR-i-kayn) a huge, powerful, swirling storm with heavy rain and strong winds; wind speeds are 119 kilometers (about 74 miles) per hour or higher (13)

land breeze (LAND BREEZ) a local wind that blows from land toward water at night (7)

precipitation (pri-sip-i-TAY-shuhn) water falling from the atmosphere to Earth as part of the water cycle, usually in the form of rain, sleet, hail, or snow (8)

sea breeze (SEE BREEZ) a local wind that blows from water toward land during the day (7)

stratus cloud (STRAT-uhs KLOWD) a low, flat, layered cloud (9)

temperature (TEM-pur-uh-chur) a measure of how hot or cold something is (5)

thermometer (ther-MOM-uh-tur) a weather instrument used to measure temperature (17)

tornado (tor-NAY-doh) a rapidly spinning funnel of air that extends from the bottom of a thundercloud to the ground (12)

troposphere (TROH-puh-sfeer) the layer of the atmosphere closest to Earth's surface, where most weather occurs (4)

warm front (WORM FRUHNT) the boundary where a warm air mass meets and slides over a cold air mass (18)

water cycle (WAH-tur SYE-kuhl) the movement of water from Earth's surface to the atmosphere and back again (8)

water vapor (WAH-tur VAY-pur) water in the form of a gas (5)

weather (WETH-ur) the condition of the atmosphere at a certain place and time (4)