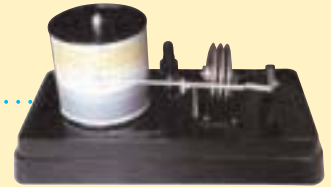


Weather Forecasting

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Glossary

air mass body of air that has about the same temperature and humidity throughout

air pressure force of the atmosphere pushing down on Earth

anemometer instrument used to measure the speed of the wind

atmosphere layer of air surrounding Earth

barometer instrument used to measure air pressure

cirrus cloud thin, feathery cloud made of ice crystals

climate average weather conditions in an area over a long period of time

cold front leading edge of a mass of cold air

convection movement of energy through the troposphere by means of the rising and sinking of air

cumulus cloud large, puffy cloud

evaporate to change from a liquid to a gas

forecast prediction of what the weather will be in the future

front boundary between two unlike air masses

global warming warming of Earth's atmosphere

greenhouse effect ability of certain gases in Earth's atmosphere to trap heat, keeping Earth warm

humidity amount of water vapor in the air

hurricane large, low-pressure storm that forms over warm oceans and has winds over 74 mph

hygrometer instrument used to measure humidity

isobar line on a weather map that connects stations that have the same air pressure

local winds winds that affect only a small area of Earth

meteorologist scientist who studies the atmosphere and weather

nimbus cloud dark cloud associated with rain or snow

occluded front front that forms when one front overtakes another

precipitation any form of water that falls from clouds to Earth

prevailing winds winds that move over large parts of Earth's surface

rain gauge instrument used to measure the amount of rain that has fallen

relative humidity amount of water vapor in the air compared with the greatest possible amount at that temperature and pressure

stationary front place where a cold air mass and warm air mass meet, but neither moves

station model small cluster of symbols and numbers on a weather map

stratus cloud low, layered cloud

surface map weather map that shows weather conditions near Earth's surface; the data is shown as symbols

tornado funnel-shaped cloud with very strong winds

troposphere bottom layer of Earth's atmosphere where weather occurs

warm front leading edge of a moving mass of warm air

water cycle the constant process in which water moves between Earth and its atmosphere

water vapor water in the form of gas

weather condition of the atmosphere at a certain place and time

weather balloon balloon that collects weather data from high in the atmosphere

weather map map that shows weather conditions over a large area

weather station place set up by the National Weather Service to collect data on weather conditions

wind vane instrument that shows the direction the wind is coming from

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