

Read About Weather

DEFINITION OF WEATHER

Weather describes what is happening in the Earth's atmosphere on any given day. There are many different types of weather such as sunny, windy, rainy, snowy and stormy.

To better understand how weather works...

LET'S BREAK IT DOWN!

Sunny weather is when the sun is shining brightly.

Sunny weather can happen when it is warm, but also when it is cold. Light from the sun warms up everything around us. If you are out in the sun for a long time you should wear sunscreen.



Cloudy weather is when there are clouds in the sky.

Clouds are made up of tiny drops of water. When those tiny drops of water get heavy enough they fall from the sky as rain. Clouds can have many different shapes and sizes.

Windy weather is when air moves around quickly.

Windy weather can blow things all around. If you have an umbrella during windy weather, it could blow away. A little bit of wind can feel nice on a hot day.

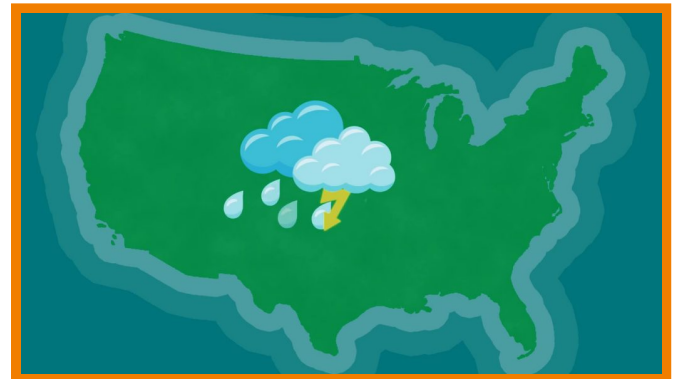


Rainy weather happens when water falls from the clouds.

Both plants and animals need rain to help them survive. In the rainforest it can rain every day and in places like the desert it might only rain a few times a year.

Weather scientists can predict the weather.

Scientists look for patterns in the weather to make predictions. They also use a variety of tools to help them collect information about the weather such as a thermometer.



WEATHER VOCABULARY

Weather

What's happening in the Earth's atmosphere on any given day.

Cloudy

When clouds are in the sky. Clouds can block sunlight.

Sunny

When the sun shines brightly with no clouds blocking it.

Rain

When drops of water fall from clouds in the sky.

Snow

When rain freezes into a solid while it's falling from the sky.

Wind

When air around us moves quickly.

WEATHER DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What kinds of things can we see if we look at the sky?

You might see clouds, sun, rain, airplanes, kites, snow, lightning and more.

What are clouds made of?

Clouds are made up of tiny droplets of water.

How do scientists predict the weather?

Scientists use patterns to make predictions about the weather. For example if they know that weather almost always moves from west to east, they can predict which way a thunderstorm will move.

Why is it important for us to know about thunderstorms before they happen?

So that we can stay safe and get inside.

How does snowy weather occur?

When it is cold outside, rain can freeze into a solid. Snow is just frozen water.

Why is rain important?

It provides plants with water so that plants can grow. It can provide people with water to drink.
