

Weather and the Water Cycle

READ ALOUD PASSAGE

Weather describes what the atmosphere is like at a certain time and place. Temperature, wind, clouds, and precipitation are all parts of weather.

Weather changes because the sun heats different parts of Earth's surface unevenly. This uneven heating causes air to move. Clouds form when water vapor in the air cools and collects around tiny particles. Different types of clouds can signal different kinds of weather. Precipitation happens when water droplets in a cloud get heavy enough to fall.

Depending on the temperature, it can fall as rain, snow, sleet, or hail. Weather tends to follow patterns by season, though individual days can still vary. Scientists called meteorologists study the weather. They use tools like thermometers, rain gauges, wind vanes, and satellites to collect data and make forecasts.

Activity 1: Word Hunt

Look back at the reading. Find four nouns and write them on the lines.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Activity 2: Statement or Question?

Read each sentence. Write S if it is a statement or Q if it is a question. Then add the correct end mark on the line.

- ☐ 1. What causes the weather to change ____
- ☐ 2. Clouds form when water vapor cools ____
- ☐ 3. Can precipitation fall as hail ____
- ☐ 4. Meteorologists study the weather ____

Activity 3: Finish with a Joining Word

Finish each sentence. The word in bold tells you what kind of idea to add.

1. Rain falls **when** _____.

2. The meteorologist checked the rain gauge **after** _____.

3. Clouds formed in the sky **before** _____.
