



Weather Wonders



Watch a forecast or just go outside and you can discover lots about the weather. Explore more about the weather and how people predict it with some of our fun weather-related activities.

?

Fill in the missing letter to see what someone who studies the weather is called?



M E _ E O _ O _ O G _ S T

(Missing Letters: T I R L)



Create a Rainbow

You might have seen a rainbow when the sun comes out after it rains. Rainbows are a weather phenomenon that are caused by the reflection, refraction and dispersion of light in water droplets. They take the form of beautiful multicolored arcs that are visible in the sky.

Rainbows can be many colours but common colours you might see are

RED

ORANGE

YELLOW

GREEN

BLUE

INDIGO

VIOLET

Rainbows are often used by people as a symbol of hope.



Why not colour or paint your own rainbow using some of the colours above.



The man who named the clouds

If you look out your window you might be able to see the clouds in the sky. Often used to predict the weather, clouds have a variety of different names. But who named the clouds?



Luke Howard (1772-1864)

Luke Howard was born in 1772 and lived in Bruce Grove and Philip Lane in Tottenham, London. Although Luke Howard worked as a chemist it was his hobby of studying the clouds that made him famous.

Luke and his wife kept detailed records of the weather over many years and Luke was the first person to make detailed studies of the clouds. In 1802 he presented his names for the clouds and these names are still used today. Because of his work we now know more about the clouds and how to forecast the weather.

Because of this Luke Howard became known as the 'namer of clouds' and the 'father of meteorology'.



Drawing the clouds

Luke Howard spent many years studying the clouds and came up with names to describe them.

The three basic cloud types were:

CUMULUS

Means heaped. A low-level puffy type cloud that is often very white. Lots in a blue sky mean fair weather.

STRATUS

Means layers. A low-level cloud which is often blurry and shapeless and doesn't let the sun through.

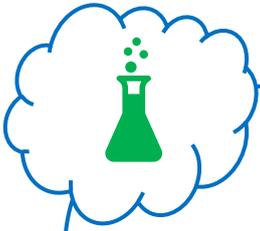
CIRRUS

Delicate and feathery low-level cloud. Looks like rolls and waves.



Try observing the clouds like Luke Howard. Have a look outside your window and see if you can draw some of the clouds in the sky. Can you work out what their names are?





Weather Experiment

Scientists use all sorts of tools to track and forecast the weather. Become a mini scientist and see if you can complete the experiment below.



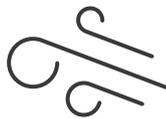
Tornado in a Bottle

A tornado is a rapidly rotating column of air that is in contact with both the surface of the Earth and a cumulonimbus cloud or, in rare cases, the base of a cumulus cloud.

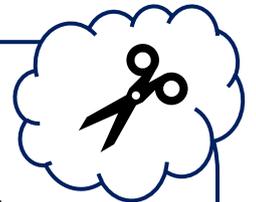
Why not see if you can make a tornado in a bottle and discover how a tornado works.

What you need: Two 2-liter clear plastic bottles (empty and clean), water, food coloring (optional, will make it easier to see), strong tape.

How to do it: Take one of the bottles and fill it two-thirds full of water. Add food coloring if you have it. Use strong tape to fasten the two containers together. Make sure to tape it tightly so that no water leaks out when you turn the bottles over. Flip the bottles so that the bottle with the water is now on top. Start swirling the bottle in a circular motion. This will create a vortex and a tornado will form in the top bottle as the water rushes into the bottom one.



Create a Windssock



Windssocks are used to find out the wind speed and the direction of the wind speed itself.



Make a windssock to measure the wind speed.

What you need: Thick paper or card, pens/pencils/paint (to decorate), crepe paper or tissue paper, string, Optional: staplers, ribbons

How to make it: Take a piece of card or thick paper. Decorate it with a design of your choice. Roll the paper width wise into a tube, then glue, tape, or staple it shut. Take some tissue paper or crepe paper (you can also use ribbons) and cut 2-3cm strips (about 30cm long). You will need approx. 10 strips but can use more. Use tape, glue or a stapler to attach the strips to the inside bottom edge of the windssock. Make 2 holes at the top of the windssock and thread string or ribbon through both holes and tie the ends together.

Hang the windssock outside (from a window or from a tree) and see where the wind blows.



Weather Watching

Meteorologists study the skies to make weather forecasts. Why not have a go at studying the weather each day and record your findings below.

You can use some of the symbols to help you.

DAILY WEATHER CHART				
DATE	TEMPERATURE	WIND DIRECTION	RAIN FALL	WEATHER CONDITIONS
1 April	17 degrees	South	None	

Weather Symbols





Weather Wordsearch

See if you can find all the words in our weather word search.
Don't forget words can go up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally.

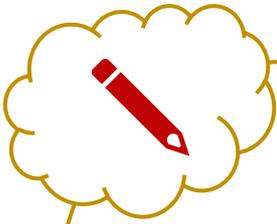
L	B	E	I	R	O	S	M	R	O	T	S	C	E
G	R	R	A	I	N	U	W	Z	A	T	Q	U	I
J	C	L	G	O	I	S	R	Z	T	H	E	A	O
A	R	O	W	D	D	Q	E	V	M	U	G	V	F
C	F	F	L	V	R	N	T	C	Z	N	I	K	S
H	W	R	J	D	I	A	E	T	F	D	N	I	W
M	A	A	D	H	Z	B	M	H	D	E	A	C	A
E	O	I	S	U	Z	Z	O	R	L	R	L	E	V
D	P	N	L	R	L	B	M	D	J	T	S	A	Z
I	U	B	E	C	E	M	R	U	U	P	P	C	K
S	S	O	I	A	Y	C	E	S	E	O	V	R	D
W	B	W	N	F	H	Z	H	D	U	W	L	G	R
C	O	L	F	R	O	S	T	R	F	A	B	C	I

WIND
FOG
RAINBOW
COLD

FROST
ICE
SUNSHINE
VAPOUR

RAIN
DRIZZLE
THERMOMETER
STORM

CLOUD
SNOW
HAIL
THUNDER



Weather Idioms

All around the world people use the clouds and the weather to describe moods, situations and to make idioms.

Here are some common British idioms using clouds.
Can you fill in the missing words to complete them?

Every cloud has a lining

Choose one of the following

- a. Golden b. Silver c. Bronze

To live in Cloud Land

Choose one of the following

- a. Blackbird b. Starling c. Cuckoo

To be on Cloud

Choose one of the following

- a. Thirteen b. Nine c. Ten

Have your in the Clouds

Choose one of the following

- a. Leg b. Arm c. Head

Can you think of any other cloud or weather-related idioms?

