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How Weather Works



Weather is what you see and feel in the sky above!

The sky is the air surrounding the earth. This air is made up of important **gases** that create the atmosphere. Weather is everything you see, feel and hear in the atmosphere (other than man-made objects) including temperature and **humidity**, sunshine, clouds, wind, rain, snow, storms, thunder and lightning.

Fun Fact!

With an average tornado count of about 1200 per year, the USA has more tornadoes than any other country in the world. The reason is the unique geography of the central USA called The Great Plains. This area is also known as "Tornado Alley" and is frequently hit by tornadoes.

Kinds of Weather

Ecobottle Sample



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Gases – Very fast moving particles of air.

Humidity – How wet or dry the air is.

Hail – A type of precipitation where chunks of ice fall

What causes the weather?

Ecobottle Sample



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Examples of the most destructive

types of weather

Hurricanes:

- A hurricane is a very strong storm over **tropical** waters with winds speed of at least 74 mph although winds are usually much stronger. Hurricanes get their energy from warm water so they begin to lose strength when they move over land.



Tornadoes:

- A tornado is a violently rotating tube of air that is touching the ground. The wind speeds in a tornado can be more than 200 mph! Tornadoes usually only last for a few minutes and travel for a few miles, but the strongest can last longer and travel many miles.



Thunderstorms:

- A thunderstorm is a storm containing lightning and thunder. Thunderstorms can become quite strong and may include heavy rain, frequent lightning as well as damaging winds and hail. Extremely strong thunderstorms can produce tornadoes.

Earth's Axis – An imaginary line drawn through earth from the North to South Pole.

Equator – An imaginary line around the center of Earth.

Tropical – The region of the Earth a few hundred miles north and south of the equator

Reading Comprehension Questions:

1. What
2. What is the atmosphere?
3. What makes up the atmosphere?
4. What
5. What two things cause the weather?
6. Why
7. What types of weather can you expect from a thunderstorm?
8. Perform a little research on your specific part of the World. Create a

Ecobottle Sample



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TWFSAT

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