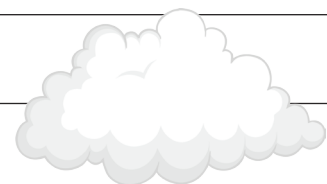
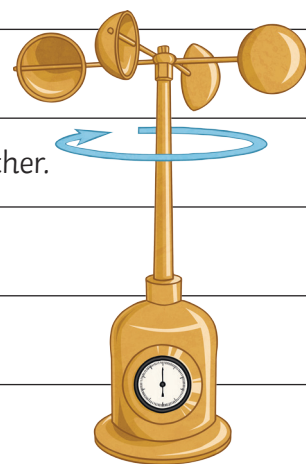


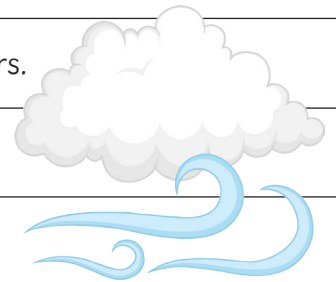
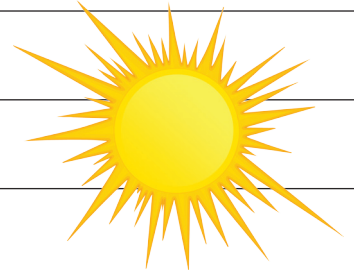
Weather and Climate Key Words



Keyword	Definition
air mass	A mass of air with the same temperature and humidity.
air pressure	The force or weight of the air above us. Air pressure is measured in millibars.
altitude	How high land is above sea level. Altitude is usually measured in metres or km above sea level.
anemometer	A weather instrument used to measure the wind speed.
anticyclone	An area of high pressure causing clear skies and sunny weather.
arid climate zone	An area with a hot and dry climate.
atmosphere	A layer of gases surrounding a planet.
barometer	A weather instrument used to measure air pressure.
Beaufort scale	A scale which uses observations of the effects of the wind to determine wind speed.
Campbell Stokes Sunshine Recorder	A weather instrument used to measure the number of hours of sunshine.
cirrus clouds	The highest clouds in the atmosphere.
climate	The average weather conditions for a place usually measured over a long period of time (30 years).
climate graph	A graph which shows the typical monthly rainfall and temperatures for a place.
climate zone	An area that has its own climate. Climate zones also have their own type of vegetation and wildlife.
clouds	A large collection of very tiny droplets of water or ice crystals which float in the air.
cloud cover	The amount of cloud covering the sky. Cloud cover is measured in oktas (eighths).
cold front	The leading edge of a cold air mass.
condensation	The process when water vapour turns into a liquid.
condensation nuclei	Microscopic particles of dust, smoke or salt in the atmosphere on which water vapour condenses to form cloud droplets.



convictional rainfall	Rain formed when the ground heats up during warm, sunny weather.
dehydration	When our bodies don't have enough water.
depression	A low pressure weather system which brings clouds and rain.
drought	A prolonged period of little or no rainfall, leading to a shortage of water.
evaporation	The process when water turns from a liquid to a gas (water vapour).
flood	When land that is usually dry is covered by water.
front	The boundary between two air masses.
frontal rainfall	Type of rainfall formed when two air masses meet.
heat stroke	When our bodies become overheated on very hot days, it can cause headaches, dizziness or even death.
heatwave	A long period of extremely high temperatures.
high pressure	When air pressure is higher than average. High air pressure is caused by sinking air.
latitude	How far north or south a place is from the equator.
low pressure	When air pressure is lower than average. Low air pressure is caused by rising air.
Mediterranean climate zone	An area with mild winters and very warm, dry summers.
meteorology	The study of weather.
meteorologist	A person who studies and predicts the weather.
mountain climate	An area with a cool and often wet climate found at higher altitudes.
North Atlantic Drift	A warm ocean current that affects the UK.
ocean currents	Movements of warm or cold water around the worlds' oceans.
polar climate zone	An area with a cold and dry climate.
precipitation	Any type of moisture reaching the Earth's surface, e.g. rain, snow, fog.



prevailing wind	Most common wind direction.
rain gauge	A weather instrument used to measure the amount of precipitation that has fallen in a 24-hour period. This is usually measured in millimetres.
relief rainfall	Rain formed when air is forced to rise over a hill or mountain.
Stevenson screen	A shelter for weather instruments to protect them from rain, snow and high winds.
storm	Type of weather bringing strong winds and heavy rain.
storm surge	A rise in sea level caused by low pressure and strong winds.
stratus clouds	A featureless cloud like a layer of fog. They bring rain, drizzle and damp weather.
temperature	How warm or cold the air is. Temperature is measured in degrees celsius (°C) or fahrenheit (°F).
temperate climate zone	An area with cool winters, warm summers and rain all year.
thermometer	A weather instrument used to measure the temperature.
tropical climate	An area with a hot and wet climate all year.
warm front	The leading edge of a warm air mass.
warm sector	An area of warmer area within a depression.
water vapour	Water held in the air as a gas.
weather	The daily changes in the condition of the atmosphere.
weather forecast	A prediction of what the weather will be like in the next few hours, days, weeks or even months.
weather instrument	An instrument used to measure and record the weather.
weather station	A place where information is collected about local weather conditions.
wind direction	The direction that the wind is blowing from. Wind direction is measured using compass bearings.
wind speed	How fast the wind is blowing. Wind speed is measured in miles or km per hour.
wind vane	A weather instrument used to measure the wind direction.

