

What is Weather?

VOCABULARY

Word	Definition	Lesson
atmosphere	The mixture of gases surrounding Earth or other planets.	Where Does Weather Happen?
cloud	A visible collection of immense numbers of water droplets or ice crystals suspended in the air. The droplets or crystals scatter sunlight and produce the white or gray appearance of clouds.	Where Does Weather Happen?
evidence	Facts or observations used to support an explanation.	Weather in Different Places
precipitation	Rain, snow, hail, and other forms of condensation that form in clouds and fall to the ground.	Where Does Weather Happen?
satellite	An object launched into orbit around Earth. Weather satellites carry instruments high above the earth's surface that report back information about our weather.	Where Does Weather Happen?
stratosphere	The layer of the atmosphere above the troposphere. It typically starts about 17 km (11 miles) above Earth and ranges to a height of about 50 km (30 miles).	Where Does Weather Happen?

troposphere	The bottom layer of the atmosphere. The troposphere is about 17 km (11 miles) thick at the equator. About 75% of all air molecules are found in the troposphere. Clouds are found in the troposphere. (See also stratosphere.)	Where Does Weather Happen?
weather	How the sky looks and the air feels. The main components of weather are temperature, sunlight, wind, clouds, and precipitation.	Describing Weather
wind	The movement of air.	Where Does Weather Happen?