Wild Weather

Find out about different types of storms.

Lightning strikes during a big storm in Nebraska.
Stormy Weather

The sky is dark. The clouds are heavy. The wind is strong. It’s storming! Storms happen all around the world. But not all storms are alike. Here are four types of storms. Have you been caught in a storm?

Thunderstorm
During a thunderstorm, the sky is dark. Lightning flashes. Thunder cracks. Boom! Heavy rain falls.

Hurricane
Hurricanes bring strong, swirling winds. They form over warm ocean water. Sometimes, they reach land.

Blizzard
A blizzard is a dangerous snowstorm. Blizzards bring high winds and heavy snowfall. During a blizzard, it can be hard to see. Snow falls for hours. It can pile up high!

Tornado
A tornado is a spinning funnel of wind. It can form when hot and cold air come together. Tornadoes are powerful. Like hurricanes, they can cause a lot of damage.

Did You Know?
A meteorologist is a scientist who studies weather. He or she warns people when strong weather is coming. This helps people stay safe during storms.
Weather Tools

A thermometer measures the air temperature. It tells us how hot or cold the air is.

This is a barometer. It measures air pressure. That’s how heavy the air is.

A rain gauge catches rain. It tells us how much rain has fallen.

On the Map

A weather map shows information about the weather. Meteorologists use weather maps to see patterns. The maps help them predict the weather.

A weather map can show temperature, wind speed, wind direction, and more. It shows where storms are and where they’re going. The maps use satellite pictures from space and information from the ground.