



Weather

What is the weather like today where you live? Is it hot or cold outside? Is there any precipitation? Are the winds strong?

Weather includes the current conditions in a place in a particular time. Meteorologists predict weather using special tools and maps.

Precipitation is an important aspect of weather. In the water cycle, water evaporates due to heat from the sun, cools during condensation, then falls back to Earth during precipitation. Water vapor can also exit plants during transpiration.

Weather is different from climate.

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Climate

What is your town's climate like? Is the weather *usually* hot or cold? Does it hardly ever rain? Think about what the weather is like most of the time.

Climate is the usual weather in a place. Southern Florida has a tropical climate. The summer is always rainy, but it is warm most of the year. Occasionally, it gets cold in Southern Florida. The climate is still tropical, even though the weather is cold.

Places close to the equator, the imaginary line around the middle of the Earth, tend to have hot climates.

Locations on the poles tend to have cold climates.

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