SCIENCE

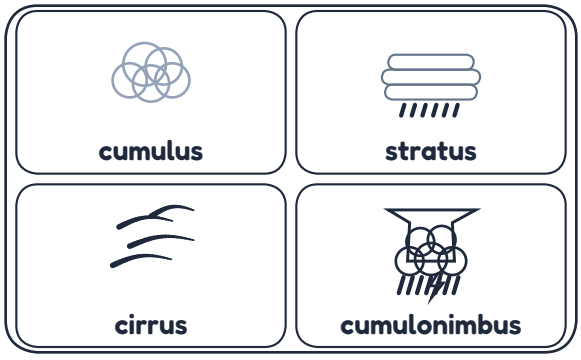
Types of clouds

Name _____ Date _____

I can name four kinds of clouds and the weather they bring.

1 How it works

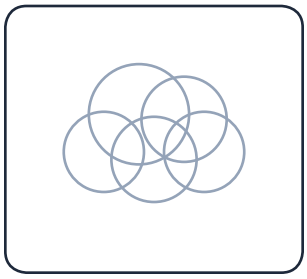
Clouds are made of tiny drops of water or bits of ice floating in the air. Cumulus clouds are puffy and white, like cotton, and mean fair weather. Stratus clouds are flat and gray, like a blanket, and can bring drizzle. Cirrus clouds are thin and wispy, high in the sky. Cumulonimbus clouds are tall and dark and bring storms.



2 Name each cloud

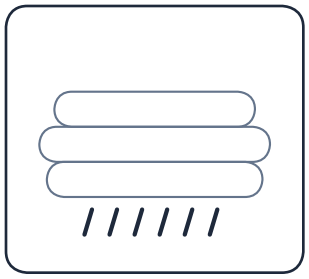
Use the words in the box.

cumulus **stratus** **cirrus** **cumulonimbus**



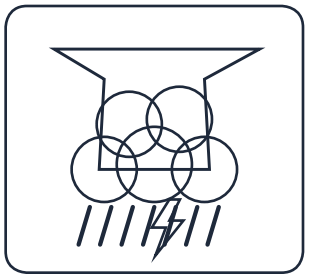
puffy and white

Name _____



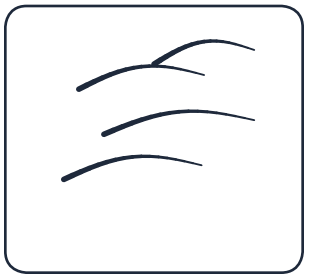
flat and gray

Name _____



tall and dark

Name _____



thin and wispy

Name _____

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Clouds and weather

Name _____ Date _____

I can match clouds to the weather they bring.

1 Draw a line from each cloud to its weather

 **cumulus**	fair, sunny weather
 **stratus**	high clouds; the weather may change soon
 **cirrus**	thunder, lightning and heavy rain
 **cumulonimbus**	gray skies and drizzle

2 What weather is coming? Circle it.

 **Tall, dark clouds are growing.**	**fair**	**drizzle**	**storm**
 **Puffy white clouds float by.**	**fair**	**drizzle**	**storm**
 **A flat gray blanket covers the sky.**	**fair**	**drizzle**	**storm**

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Think like a scientist

Name _____ Date _____

I can use clouds to predict the weather.

1 Think about it

1. Why do some clouds look dark? _____
2. Which cloud would you see on a picnic day? _____
3. What should you do if you see a cumulonimbus? _____
4. How is fog like a cloud? _____

2 True or false? Circle it.

1. Clouds are made of tiny water drops or bits of ice.	true	false
2. All clouds bring rain.	true	false
3. Cirrus clouds are low and dark.	true	false
4. Fog is a cloud near the ground.	true	false
5. Cumulonimbus clouds can bring storms.	true	false

3 Look at the sky. Draw the clouds you see and name them.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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Try it: cloud watch

Name _____ Date _____

I can observe clouds and use them to predict the weather.

1 You need

- a notebook
- a pencil
- crayons
- a window or a yard
- this cloud guide

2 What to do

1. Look at the sky at the same time each day for 3 days. Never look at the sun.
2. Draw the clouds you see. Are they puffy, flat, wispy or tall?
3. Name the clouds with the guide on page 1.
4. Later that day, write what the weather did.

3 I predict

Can clouds help you guess the weather?

_____

_____

4 What I see

Day	Clouds I saw	Weather later
Day 1		
Day 2		
Day 3		

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: types of clouds

1 Page 1

Clouds: 1) cumulus; 2) stratus; 3) cumulonimbus; 4) cirrus.

2 Page 2

Weather: 1) cumulus: fair, sunny weather; 2) stratus: gray skies and drizzle; 3) cirrus: high clouds; the weather may change soon; 4) cumulonimbus: thunder, lightning and heavy rain.

Coming: 1) storm; 2) fair; 3) drizzle.

3 Page 3

Think: 1) They are thick and full of water; 2) Cumulus; 3) Go inside, a storm may come; 4) Fog is a cloud near the ground.

True or false: 1) true; 2) false; 3) false; 4) true; 5) true.

Drawing: answers will vary. Check that the name matches the shape: puffy, flat, wispy or tall.

4 Page 4: Try it!

Answers will vary. Puffy cumulus clouds usually come with fair weather. A flat gray stratus layer often brings a gray day or drizzle. Tall, dark cumulonimbus clouds often come before a storm, and high cirrus clouds can mean the weather will change in a day or so.

5 Teaching tip

Give each child a cotton ball, a strip of gray paper and a white chalk line on blue paper to model cumulus, stratus and cirrus clouds. Comparing real clouds to the models makes the names stick.

Safety: never look straight at the sun, even through clouds. Go inside if you hear thunder.

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