

Air Mass	A huge body of air that has similar temperature, humidity, and air pressure at any given height.
Air Pressure	The pressure caused by the weight of a column of air pushing down on an area.
Altostratus	A globular cloud at middle height.
Anemometer	An instrument used to measure wind speed.
Atmosphere	The envelope of gases that surrounds Earth.
Barometer	An instrument used to measure changes in air pressure.
Carbon Dioxide	A colorless, odorless greenhouse gas that is present in the atmosphere and is formed when any fuel containing carbon is burned.
CFC's	Chlorine compounds that are the main cause of ozone depletion.
Cirrus	Wispy, feathery clouds made of ice crystals that form at high levels.
Climate	The pattern of temperature and precipitation typical of an area over a long period of time.

Cold Front	The zone separating two air masses, of which the cooler, denser mass is advancing and replacing the warmer.
Condensation Nuclei	Any tiny suspended particle in the atmosphere upon which condensation of water vapor begins.
Coriolis Effect	The effect of Earth's rotation on the direction of winds and currents.
Cumulonimbus	A cloud that produces thunderstorm conditions, characterized by large, dense towers that often reach altitudes of 30,000 feet.
Cumulus	Fluffy, white clouds, usually with flat bottoms, that look like rounded piles of cotton.
Dew Point	The temperature at which condensation begins.
Exosphere	The outer layer of the thermosphere.
Fog	A cloudlike mass or layer of small water droplets or ice crystals near the surface of the earth.
Global Warming	A gradual increase in the average temperature of Earth's atmosphere.
Global Winds	Winds that blow steadily from specific directions over long distances.

Greenhouse Effect	The process by which heat is trapped in the atmosphere by gases that form a "blanket" around Earth.
High Pressure	Regions of sinking air, also called anticyclones. Clear skies and fair weather usually occur in these regions.
Humidity	The amount of water vapor in a given volume of air.
Hydrosphere	The water on & surrounding the surface of the globe, including oceans and the water in the atmosphere.
Ionosphere	The lower part of the thermosphere.
Jet Stream	Bands of high-speed winds about 10 kilometers above Earth's surface.
Land Breeze	The flow of air from land to a body of water.
Local Winds	Winds that blow over short distances.
Low Pressure	Regions of rising air, also called depressions or cyclones. Clouds rain and strong winds often occur in these regions.
Mesosphere	The layer of Earth's atmosphere immediately above the stratosphere.

Monsoons	Sea or land breeze over a large region that changes direction with the seasons.
Nimbostratus	A cloud with a formless layer that is almost uniformly dark gray; a rain cloud of low altitude.
Ozone Layer	The layer of the upper atmosphere where most atmospheric ozone is concentrated that absorbs the Sun's harmful UV Rays.
Particulate	Solid or liquid particles suspended in the atmosphere, especially pollutants.
Prevailing Westerlies	The west-to-east winds that occur in the temperate zones of the Earth.
Psychrometer	An instrument used to measure relative humidity.
Relative Humidity	The percentage of water vapor in the air compared to the maximum amount of water vapor that air can contain at a particular temperature.
Sea Breeze	The flow of cooler air from over an ocean or lake toward land.
Stationary Front	A front between warm and cold air masses that is moving very slowly or not at all.
Stratosphere	The second-lowest layer of Earth's atmosphere.

Stratus	Clouds that form in flat layers and often cover much of the sky.
Temperature	A measure of how hot or cold an object is compared to a reference point.
Thermometer	An instrument used to measure temperature.
Thermosphere	The outermost layer of Earth's atmosphere.
Trade Winds	The nearly constant easterly winds that dominate most of the tropics and subtropics, blowing mainly from the northeast in the Northern Hemisphere, and from the southeast in the Southern Hemisphere.
Troposphere	The lowest layer of Earth's atmosphere.
Warm Front	A transition zone between a mass of warm air and the colder air it is replacing.
Water Vapor	Water in the form of a gas.
Weather	The condition of Earth's atmosphere at a particular time and place.
Weather Vane	A device to which a freely rotating pointer is attached, for indicating the direction of the wind.