



Dear Educator,

This file offers views of some of the worksheets in our “Clouds” thematic unit. The cover for an eWorkbook is shown followed by the preview pages.

The “Clouds” unit offers [12 pages](#).

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# Clouds



# CLOUDS

## What are clouds and how are they formed?

The water from the earth is continually evaporating. The heat energy from the sun causes water to evaporate.

Water carried by the air is called water vapor. Every day water from lakes, streams, rivers, oceans, plants, and animals evaporate from the heat of the sun.

Water vapor mixes with the air and is carried up into the atmosphere. Some of the water vapor will form tiny droplets around a tiny speck of dust.

When water droplets collect in one area, they will form a cloud. **Billions of water droplets make up a cloud.**



When the temperature of the air is below freezing the drops turn into ice. When they become too heavy they begin to fall as ice crystals. When the ice crystals fall through warm air they fall to the ground as rain.

Read each sentence. Fill in the missing word.

1. Water \_\_\_\_\_ into the air every day.  
evaporates      flows      dries

2. Evaporating means water turning into \_\_\_\_\_ .  
ice      vapor      rain

3. Heat from the \_\_\_\_\_ causes water to evaporate.  
clouds      sun      moon

# CLOUDS



Weather forecasters use cirrus, stratus, and cumulus clouds to describe the main types of clouds. They also combine other words with the main clouds to describe a variation of the cloud.

The word alto means, “high.” When you put the word alto with stratus, alto-stratus and alto with cumulus, alto cumulus, it tells us how high the clouds are in the sky.

The word nimbo comes from the word nimbus and means, “rainstorm.” Usually a steady rain will fall from a nimbostratus cloud within twenty-four hours after it is formed. Forecasters join nimbus and stratus together to describe a certain type of cloud.



Cirrostratus means the cirro clouds are very spread out. Other combinations include stratocumulus and cirrocumulus.

Large cumulonimbus clouds are very big thunderheads. They produce severe rainstorms with thunder and lightning. Cumulonimbus clouds sometimes produce tornadoes.

You have learned many things about clouds. When you are outside looking at the clouds, see how many of them you can name. Try to predict the weather by looking at the clouds.



Look at the sky where you live today. If there are clouds in the sky describe how they look. If there are no clouds in the sky can you remember how clouds looked one day? If so, describe what you remember. Please use complete sentences when you write.

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# CLOUDS

## CRISS CROSS

Can you fit these words into the criss cross?  
Use a pencil so you can erase if you need to.

clouds  
sky

high  
weather

cumulus  
sleet

fog  
vapor

