**WEATHER TERMS**

**Temperature** - The measure of the amount of heat energy in the atmosphere.

**Air Pressure** - The weight of the air, which is determined by several factors including the temperature.

**Wind Speed** – How fast the wind is blowing.

**Precipitation** - The amount of water, which falls from the sky.

**Wind Direction** - The direction in which the wind blows.

**Humidity** – The amount of moisture in the air.

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**Weather Tools**

- **Thermometer** measures **Temperature**
- **Barometer** measures **Air Pressure**
- **Anemometer** measures **Wind Speed**
- **Rain Gauge** measures **Precipitation**
- **Wind Vane** measures **Wind Direction**
- **Hygrometer** measures **Humidity**

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A **meteorologist** uses weather instruments and data to predict weather patterns.

Different **atmospheric conditions** produce the four types of precipitation: **rain**, **snow**, **sleet**, and **hail**.

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**Four Cloud Types**

- **CIRRUS**
  A feathery cloud, usually associated with fair weather, but often indicates rain or snowfall in several hours.

- **STRATUS**
  A gray, smooth cloud that covers the whole sky and blocks all sunlight. Light rain and drizzle usually occur.

- **CUMULUS**
  A white, fluffy cloud with a flat bottom usually indicating fair weather.

- **CUMULONIMBUS**
  A dark, tall, billowing cloud that produces rain and thunderstorms.

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**EXTREME atmospheric conditions** create a variety of storms:

- **Thunderstorm**: A common storm with winds, rain, thunder, and lightning.

- **Hurricane**: A storm which forms over water with heavy winds.

- **Tornado**: A violent storm with a rotating column of air.