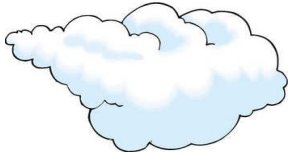


Name: _____



Types of Clouds

by Erin Ryan



When you look up in the sky, you realize that no two clouds look exactly alike. Clouds are formed from water vapor that condenses then clusters together in droplets. There are many different types of clouds that can be seen. The types of clouds are determined based on what they look like and how high they are in the atmosphere.

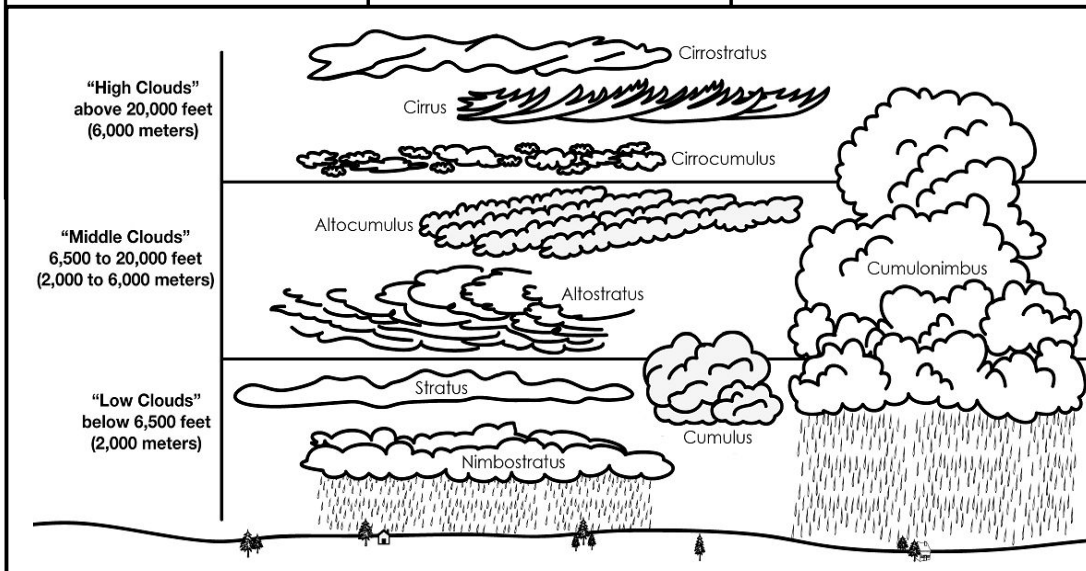
High-Level Clouds	Mid-Level Clouds	Low-Level Clouds	Vertical Clouds
<p>High-level clouds are formed in altitudes above 20,000 feet. Because the temperatures are so cold at this elevation, these clouds are formed from ice crystals.</p> <p><u>Cirrus</u> clouds are thin and wispy.</p>	<p>Mid-level clouds are found in altitudes between 6,500 to 20,000 feet. They are formed mainly of water droplets, but can also be made up of ice crystals when the temperature is cold enough.</p>	<p>Low-level clouds are found below 6,500 feet and although they are mostly made up of water droplets. They can also be composed of ice particles and snow in very cold temperatures.</p>	<p><u>Cumulus</u> and <u>cumulonimbus</u> clouds are both known as vertical clouds.</p> <p><u>Cumulus</u> clouds are also called fair weather clouds and look like floating cotton. They have very flat bases and</p>



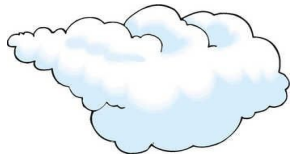
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<p><u>Cirrus</u> very cover</p> <p><u>Cirrus</u> small round puffs in the sky. Sometimes they are called mackerel clouds because they look similar to fish scales.</p>	<p>rain storms.</p>	<p>et or higher because of very strong updrafts in the atmosphere. Low level <u>cumulonimbus</u> clouds are made up of water droplets, but at higher elevations, they consist of ice crystals. <u>Cumulonimbus</u> clouds are the type of clouds that bring lightning, thunder, violent tornadoes and other intense weather situations.</p>
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Name: _____



Types of Clouds

by Erin Ryan



1. Name the two types of low-level clouds.

2. What type of clouds are called "fair weather clouds" and look like floating cotton?

3. Name two types of clouds that are between 20,000 and 6,500 feet in the air.

4. Which type of clouds brings lightning, thunder, and tornadoes?

5.



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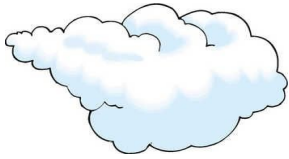
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6.

7. What type of cloud is often formed by fog lifting in the morning?

8. Why are cirrocumulus clouds sometimes called mackerel clouds?

ANSWER KEY



Types of Clouds

by Erin Ryan



1. Name the two types of low-level clouds.

stratus and nimbostratus



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