

Hurricanes

Hurricanes, cyclones and typhoons are all different names for the same thing: a huge, spiral-shaped storm. They form over warm oceans and can be up to 1,000 km across. Evaporating water creates a huge, rotating mass of cloud. When it reaches the land, it brings strong winds and lots of rain.

TRUE? ☐

Hurricanes get given their own names

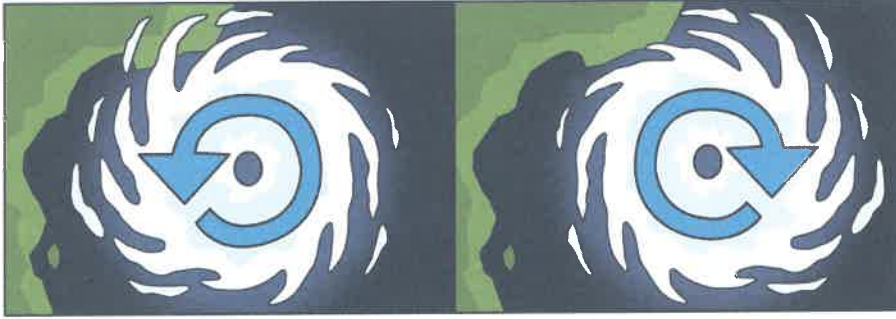
UNTRUE? ☐

ANSWER ON PAGE 34

Hurricanes spin because of the way the Earth spins.

In the northern hemisphere, they turn anti-clockwise...

and in the southern hemisphere, they turn clockwise!



Evaporation stations

Find out how heat makes evaporation happen.

You will need:

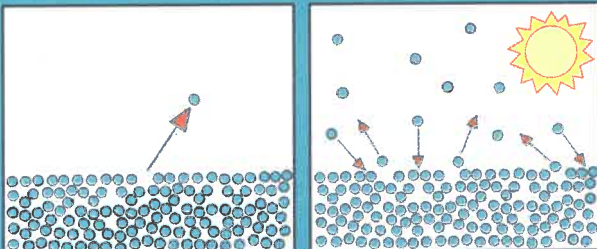
- Three identical bowls
- A waterproof ruler
- Water
- A clock, watch or timer

What you do:

1. Put cold water in each bowl to a depth of 2 cm (use the ruler to check).
2. Put the three bowls in different places, one cold, one medium and one warm. For example, you could put one in the fridge, one in the shade, and one on a sunny windowsill, in an airing cupboard or on a warm radiator.
3. Leave the bowls for three hours, then measure the water levels. Have they gone down?

You should find:

The warmer the temperature, the faster the water evaporates! The water in the warm place should have gone down the most, and the water in the coldest place the least. In a liquid, molecules zoom and jiggle around at different speeds. Fast-moving ones escape into the air and become gas. Heat gives the molecules energy to move faster, so more of them escape!

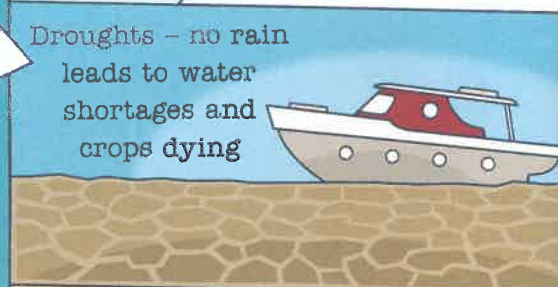
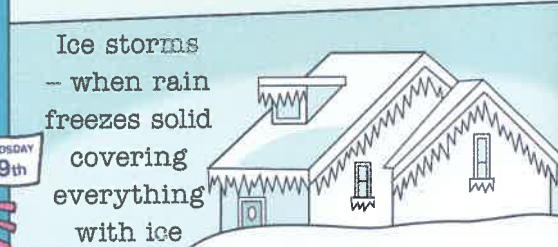


Which is the stormiest day of the week?
Windsday!



More wild weather!

And that's not all – there are other types of wild weather out there too!



Climate change

The Earth's climate is gradually getting warmer. This is because of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, which are released into the atmosphere when we burn fuel. They act like a greenhouse, trapping heat and making the Earth warmer. A warmer Earth means more extreme weather. Can you work out why?