



Factors that Affect the

1. Weather is The atmospheric conditions for a location at a specific time. Includes temperature, humidity, cloudiness, precipitation and wind speed.

2. Air Pressure

a. Air pressure is the the force of the air pressing down on the Earth's surface.

b. Air pressure depends on the density of the air Density is how tightly packed the material is in an object

c. Factors that affect air pressure

Δ Temperature higher temperature = less density = lower pressure

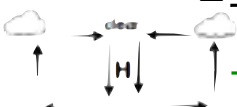
Δ Water Vapor moist air is less dense = lower pressure

Δ Elevation as altitude increases, density decreases

d. Measured with a barometer

4. Air pressure and Weather


a. High pressure

 Δ occur when large masses of air come together in the upper atmosphere.

Δ air pushes down from higher pressure above

Δ usually brings clear skies

b. Low pressure

 Δ occur when large masses of air move apart in the upper atmosphere

Δ reduces pressure on warm layers of air below allowing it to rise

Δ usually brings clouds and precipitation

c. Isobars lines connecting areas of equal pressure

5. Local Wind

a. as the air in a location is warmed it rises and cooler air moves in to take its place.

b. Winds and pressure

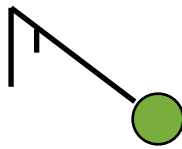
Δ Winds blow in toward the center of low pressure

Δ Winds blow outward from the center of high pressure

c. Measured with an anemometer

d. Wind symbols on a weather map

Bars = give wind speed = 15



Direction = toward the circle = NW

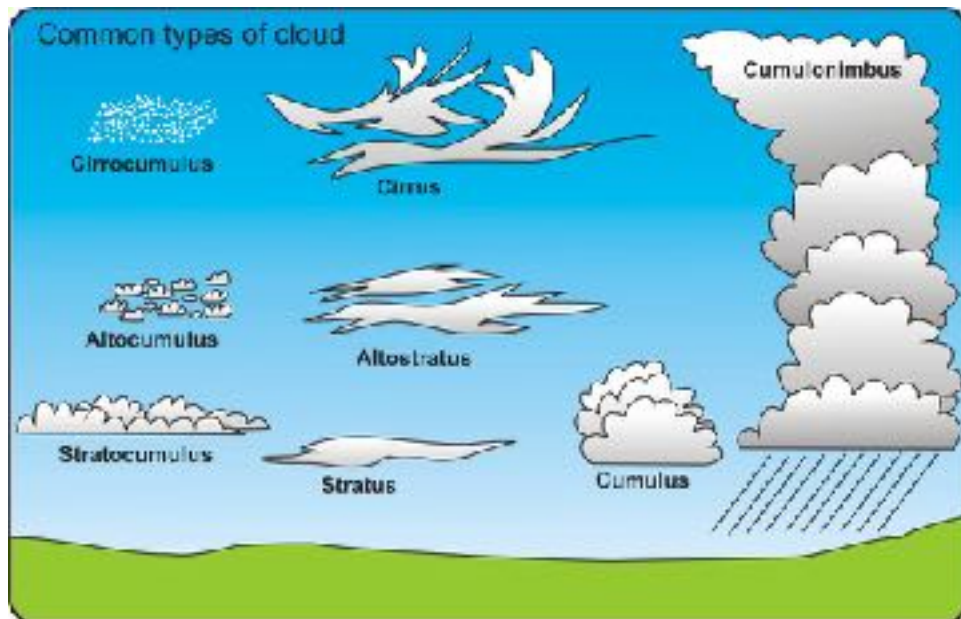
6. Clouds

a. Warm air can hold more moisture than cold air.

b. When warm air rises it cools and the water vapor condenses

c. Clouds form when moisture condenses on dust or small particles

d. Cloud droplets can increase in size until gravity pulls them to the Earth as precipitation

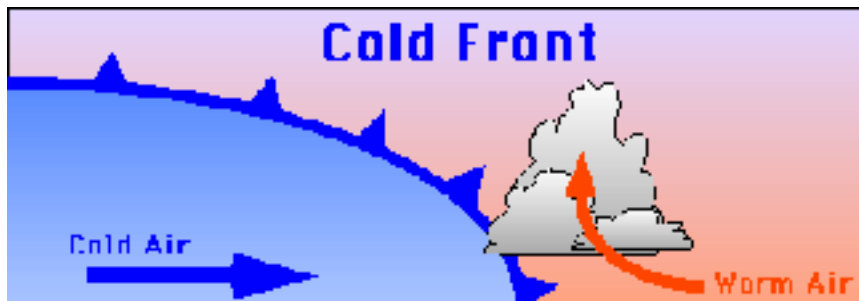


Changes in the Weather

1. Changes in the weather are caused by movement of air masses
2. Air masses with different temperatures do not easily mix.
3. Fronts form at the boundary where two air masses with different properties meet.

4. Types of Fronts

a. Cold Front



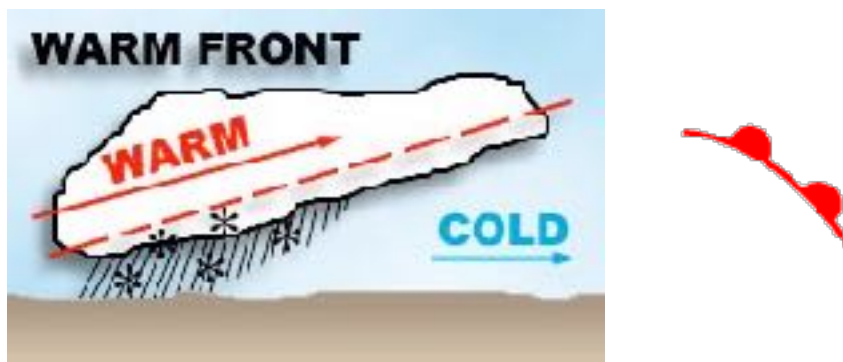
Δ Cold air mass meets and pushes under a warm air mass.

Δ Warm air is pushed up and clouds form

Δ Weather: Precipitation rain or storms and after the front

Temperatures decreases after the front passes

b. Warm Front

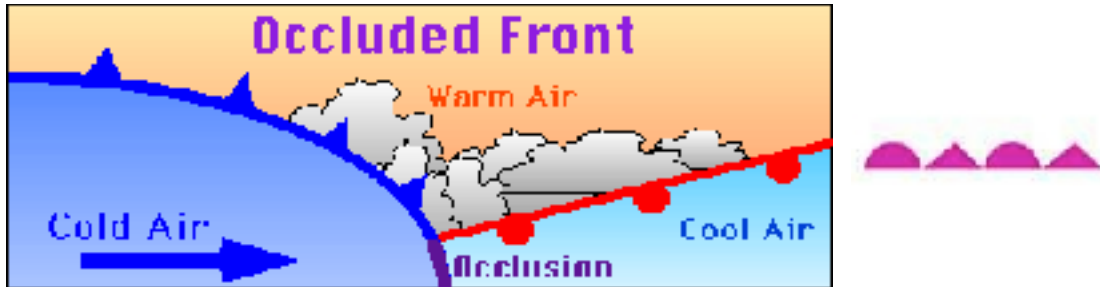


Δ Warm air mass overtakes and pushes over a cold air mass.

Δ Weather: Precipitation rain or storms BEFORE the front

Temperatures increases after the front passes

c. Occluded Front

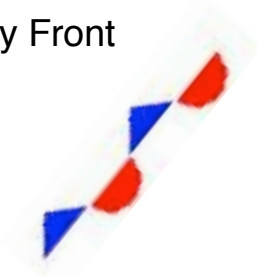


Δ A cold front travels faster than a warm front

Δ When a cold front overtakes a warm front an occluded front forms

Δ Weather less extreme weather than a cold or warm front

d. Stationary Front



Δ When a warm air mass meets a cold air mass and no movement occurs a stationary front is formed.

Δ Weather several days of rain or snow