

Storm Watch



by Mary Louise Bourget

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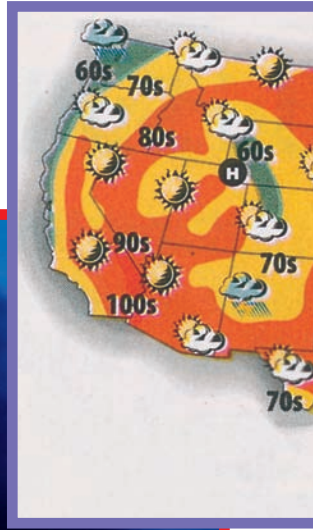
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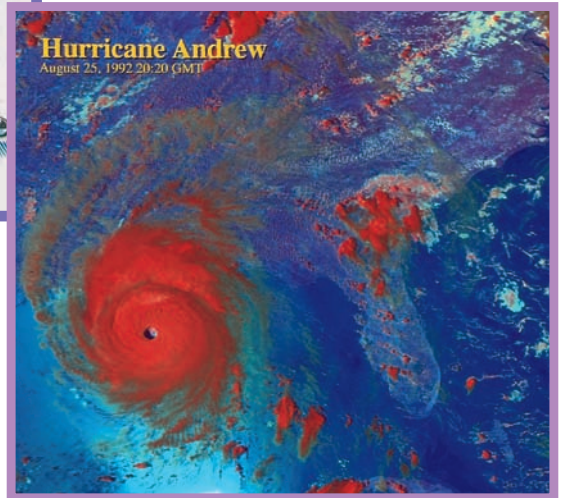
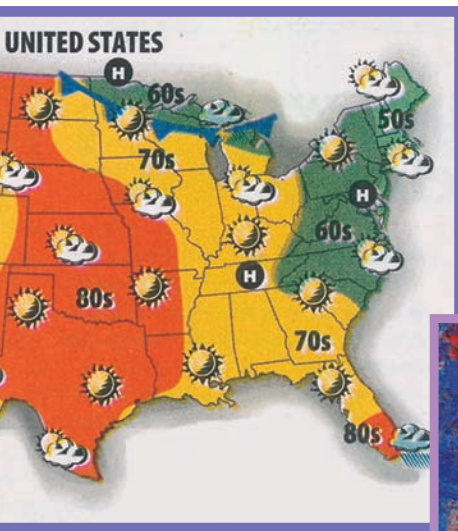
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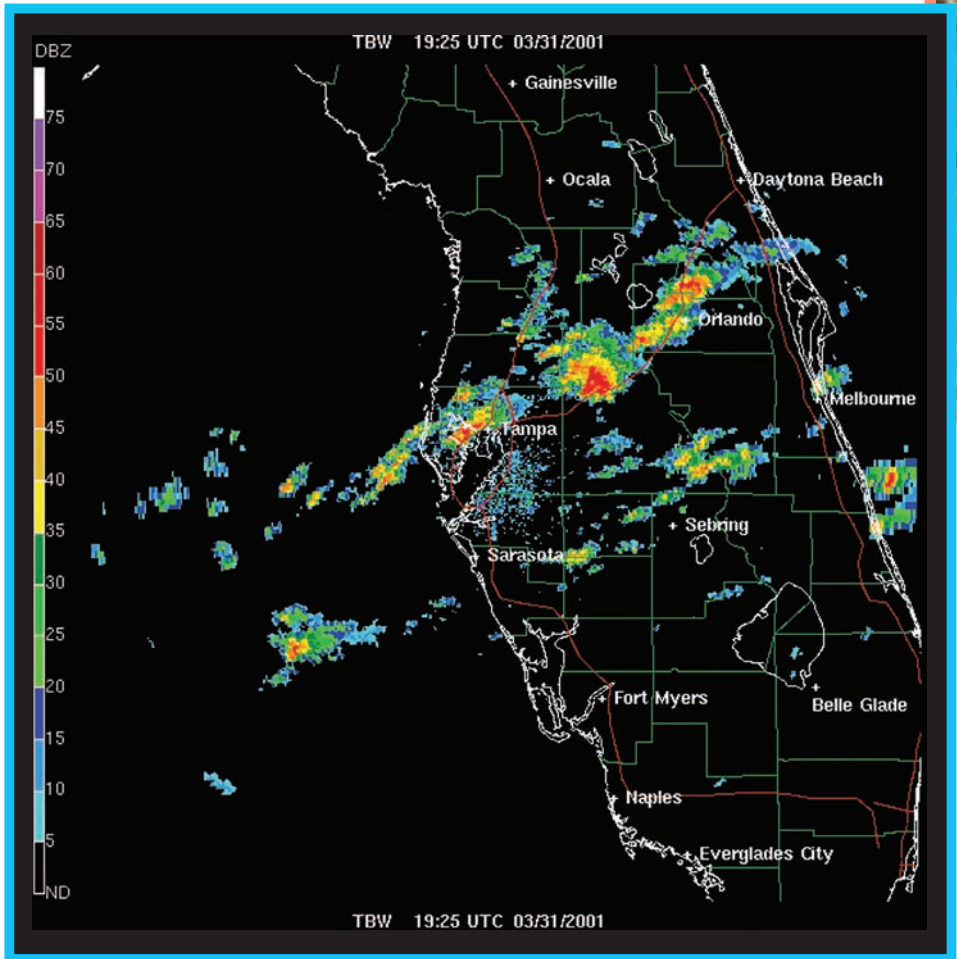


Is the sky angry? No, but these dark clouds may bring more than just rain.



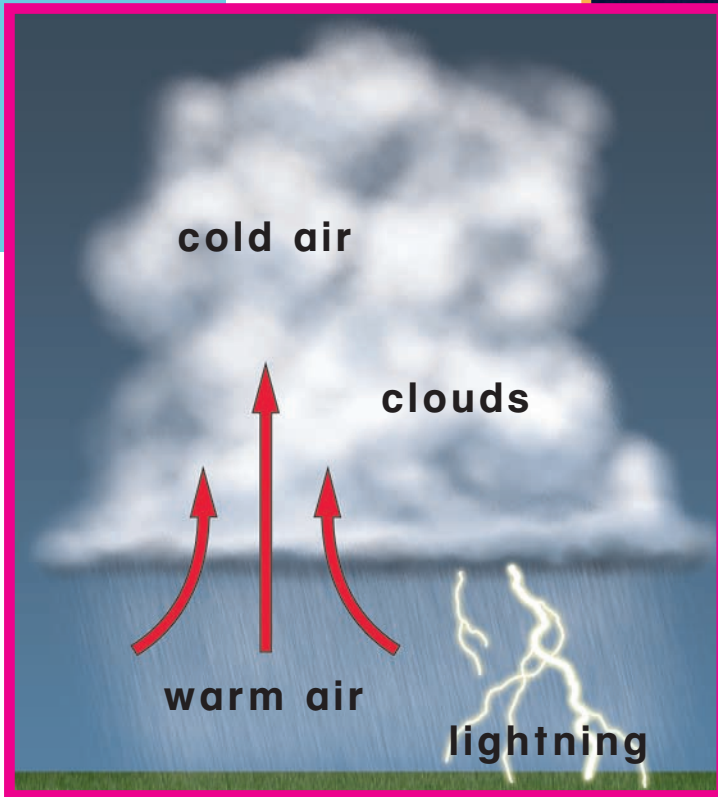
Weather watchers use lots of different maps. The maps tell them about the wind, the clouds, and warm and cold air.

This radar picture shows where it is raining. It also tells how hard it is raining.





"The wind will be strong today," says the weather forecaster. "I'm sorry to say that we will have some thunderstorms."



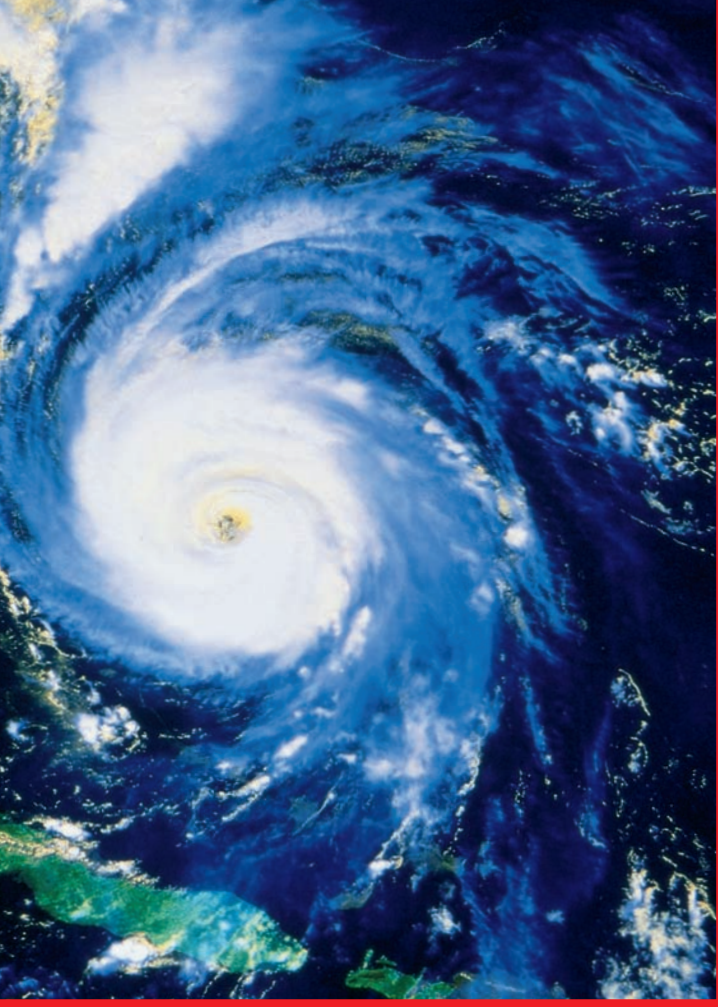
A thunderstorm happens when warm air and cold air meet.



Lightning is a large spark.
Thunder comes from the
lightning. The lightning
can harm you, but thunder
will not.



During the summer, some states get hurricanes. This kind of storm can be large.



It may cover nearly hundreds of miles. This hurricane was one of the largest ever seen.



A hurricane brings very strong winds and lots of rain. Winds may take off housetops or blow down trees. A hurricane can do a lot of harm.



People need to listen to warnings about hurricanes and thunderstorms. Wind and rain together may not be safe.



If you listen to the weather forecast and learn what to do, you'll be okay.

Think and Respond

- 1 What is this story mainly about?
- 2 How can people stay safe during a storm?
- 3 Why do you think some people get hurt during a storm? Explain.



Water Test Collect several small pieces of fabric. Using an eye dropper of water, test each one to see if the cloth absorbs the water. Which fabric would make a good rain jacket?



School-Home Connection Make a rain gauge with a family member. Use a plastic cup, and mark inches on the outside of the cup. Put the cup outside, but not too close to your home. After it rains, check the cup to see how much rain fell.