

LEVELED BOOK • I

# Blizzards!

MULTI  
level  
I-L-O

Written by Susan Lennox

[www.readinga-z.com](http://www.readinga-z.com)

# Blizzards!



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## Focus Question

What is a blizzard, and how does it affect people?

## Words to Know

biting

strike

blizzard

whip

moist

wind chill

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Horse carts take snow away after the Blizzard of 1888.

## The Great White Hurricane

In 1888, a **blizzard** hit New York.

The storm lasted for three days.

It caused a lot of harm.

Many people died.



Blizzards are known for fierce winds and blowing snow.

## Extreme Storms

The United States has had many blizzards.

Three things make up a blizzard—strong winds, blinding snow, and freezing cold.



Snow clouds form and roll across a lake.

## Birth of a Blizzard

Snow starts when **moist** warm air  
meets cold air.

Clouds form, and the water in them  
freezes into snow.



Blowing snow makes driving difficult.

The winds **whip** the snow  
through the air.  
It becomes hard to see.



Cold blizzard wind can cause skin to freeze quickly.

**Biting** winds also make

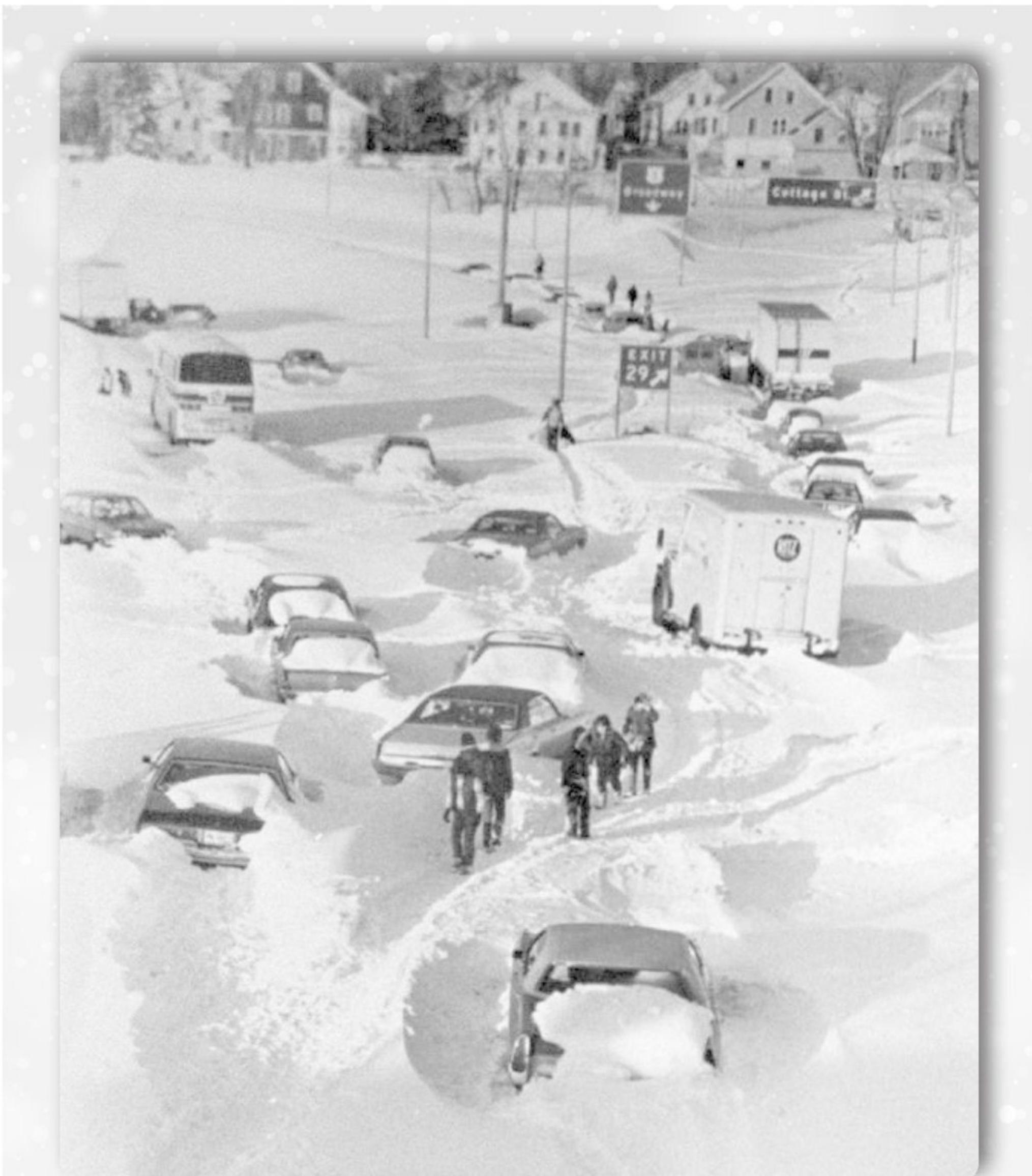
air feel colder.

This is called **wind chill**.

Wind chill makes the body lose

heat faster.

Skin can freeze.

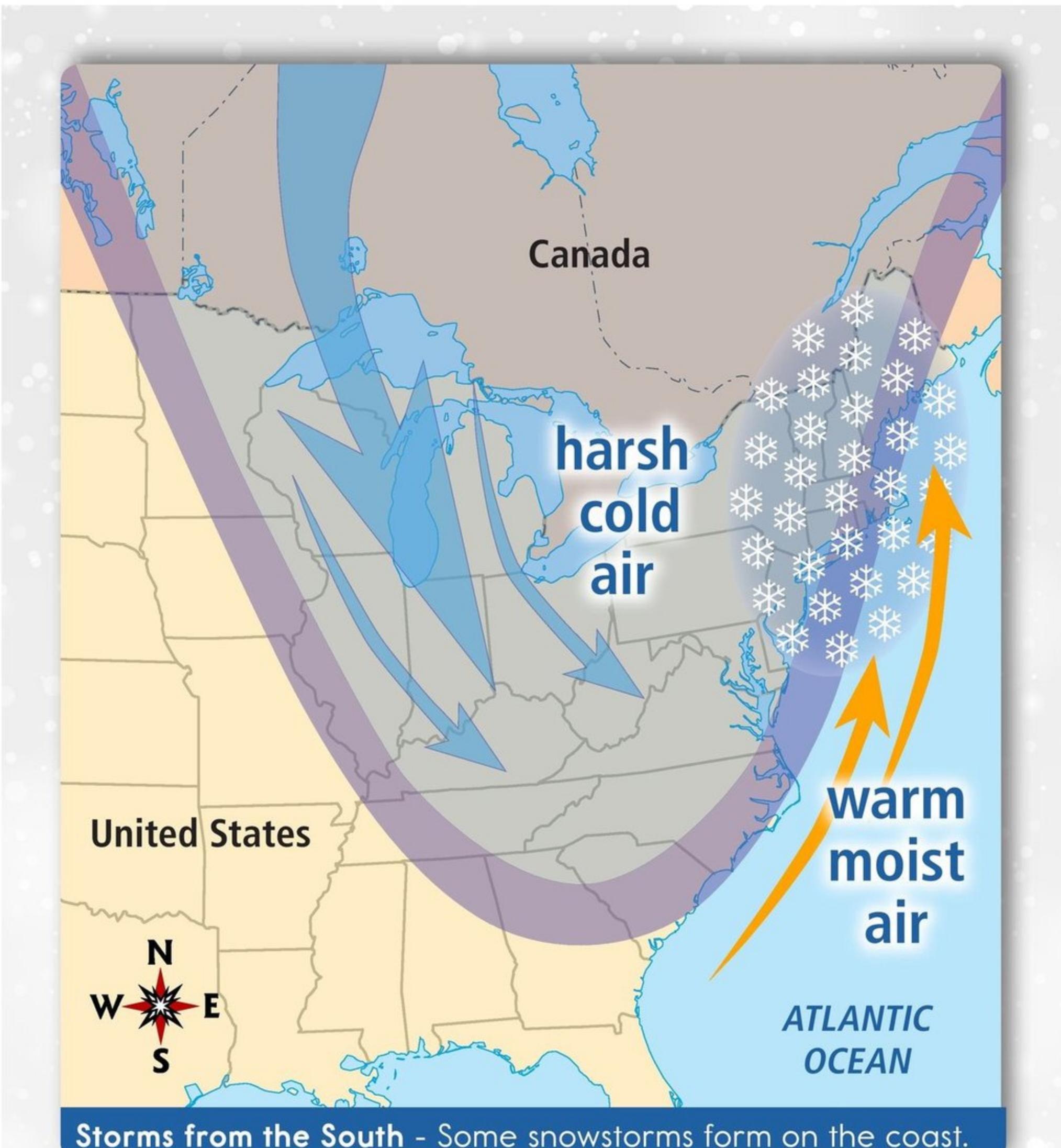


Cars in Massachusetts are stuck after a 1978 blizzard.

## Blizzard Country

Blizzards can happen anywhere  
there is snow.

The East Coast of the United States  
is one such place.



Storms sometimes move up

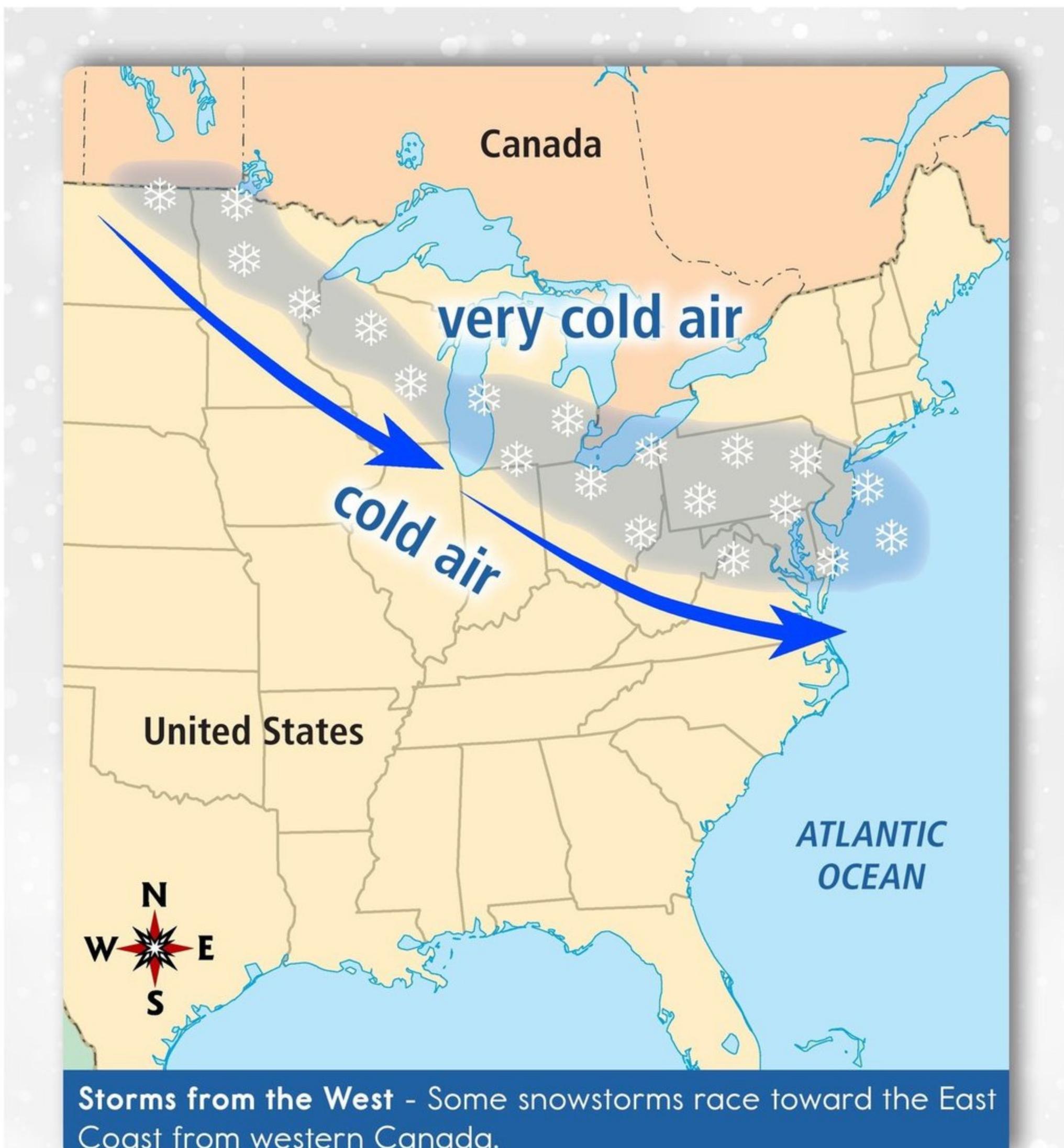
from the south.

When they do, they may run

into cold air moving down

from Canada.

These storms make lots of snow.



**Storms from the West** - Some snowstorms race toward the East Coast from western Canada.

Another type of storm comes

from the west.

These storms move fast.

They bring strong winds  
and freezing cold,  
but not a lot of snow.



A worker at a weather station tracks the path of a storm.

## Being Prepared and Staying Safe

Long ago, people were surprised by storms.

Today, people know more about weather.

They can tell when and where blizzards will **strike**.



People wait in line to buy groceries before a blizzard.

They can get ready.

They can make sure they have enough food and water to last for days.



City workers rush home as a storm starts.

People can then go home and wait out the storm.

There, they can stay safe and warm.



It is best to watch the storm from inside!

The best place to be in a blizzard  
is inside.

In time, the storm will end.

Then it will be safe to have fun  
in the snow!

## Glossary

**biting** (adj.) painfully cold (p. 8)

**blizzard** (n.) a severe snowstorm with cold temperatures, heavy snows, and strong steady winds (p. 4)

**moist** (adj.) slightly wet; damp (p. 6)

**strike** (v.) to suddenly happen or appear (p. 12)

**whip** (v.) to move, hit, or stir suddenly or quickly (p. 7)

**wind chill** (n.) an effect of blowing wind that causes the body to lose heat faster and makes the air feel colder than it really is (p. 8)

# Blizzards!

A Reading A-Z Level I Leveled Book

Word Count: 250

## Connections

### Writing and Art

Imagine being in the middle of a blizzard. Write a journal entry about what happened, including how you prepared for the blizzard and what you saw.

### Science

Use a Venn diagram to compare a blizzard with another type of storm. Share your Venn diagram with a partner.

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