**Glossary**

**air mass** body of air that has about the same temperature and humidity throughout

**air pressure** force of the atmosphere pushing down on Earth

**anemometer** instrument used to measure the speed of the wind

**atmosphere** layer of air surrounding Earth

**barometer** instrument used to measure air pressure

**Beaufort scale** scale that relates wind speed to its effects on land and sea

**Celsius** type of temperature scale

**cirrus cloud** thin, feathery cloud made of ice crystals

**cloud** mass of tiny water droplets or ice particles in the air

**cold front** leading edge of a moving mass of cold air

**condensation** the process of a gas changing to a liquid

**cumulus cloud** puffy cloud

**evaporation** the process of a liquid changing to a gas

**Fahrenheit** type of temperature scale

**front** boundary between air masses with different temperatures

**humidity** the amount of water vapor in the air

**hygrometer** instrument used to measure humidity

**meteorologist** scientist who studies the weather

**precipitation** any form of water that falls from clouds to Earth

**rain gauge** instrument used to measure the amount of precipitation

**stationary front** place where a cold air mass and warm air mass meet, but neither moves

**stratus cloud** low, layered cloud

**temperature** measure of the amount of heat energy in a substance

**thermometer** instrument used to measure temperature

**troposphere** bottom layer of Earth’s atmosphere where weather occurs

**warm front** the leading edge of a moving mass of warm air

**water cycle** constant movement of water from Earth to the atmosphere, and back to Earth

**water vapor** water in the form of a gas

**weather** state of the atmosphere at a certain place and time

**weather map** map that shows weather conditions over a large area

**wind** moving air

**wind chill** how cold the air feels because of the wind

**wind vane** instrument used to tell the direction from which the wind is blowing