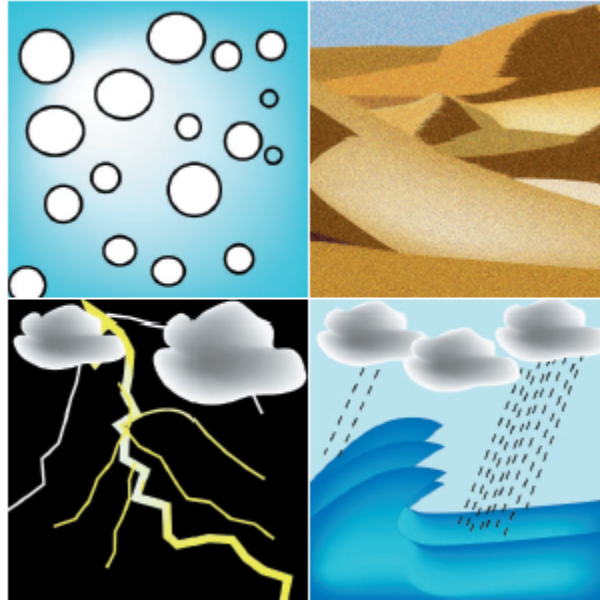


1.

Storms Information Sheet

What is a storm?

A storm is bad weather with strong winds, rain or snow, and often thunder and lightning too. There are many different types of storm.



Thunderstorms explained

Thunder can sound like a rumble, a crackle or just one loud crack. It can be heard after a flash of lightning lights up the sky. Lightning is very hot and it heats up the air all around it. When this hot air touches the cooler air nearby, the hot air explodes. This explosion is the sound we call thunder.

Lightning can be dangerous, but thunder cannot hurt you.



Lightning always comes before thunder.

Sandstorms

Sandstorms happen in many hot dry places around the world. A sandstorm takes place when strong winds blow dry sand up into the air. The wind blows the sand into big clouds and pushes it up against anything in its way. Sandstorms can change the shape of desert rocks by blowing sand up against them. The sand clouds scratch away at the rocks over time, chipping pieces off and changing them into strange shapes. Sand is also blown into buildings, covering the things inside with sand and red dust.



This was once a solid rock. Wind and sand carve desert rocks into strange shapes.

At the end of the storm, the winds slow down. The sand then settles back onto the ground, spreading over huge areas. Sometimes airports, railways and roads are covered in sand and have to be closed.



Buildings often have to be cleared after a sandstorm.

Storms at sea

Strong winds make a storm at sea. The waves get bigger as wind blows them across the sea. The wind pushes the waves towards the land, where they crash and tumble onto the beach. These crashing waves are called breakers. Storms at sea can be very dangerous. Boats can be tossed from side to side on the huge waves. People on boats listen to weather forecasts on the radio so that they can find out if a storm is coming.

Storms at sea can be dangerous for animals too. Young sea turtles and seals can be washed onto the shore during a storm. They are often caught up in seaweed. This makes it difficult for them to move back into the water when the storm is over.



Storms at sea can be dangerous for boats.

Snowstorms

A strong snowy storm that lasts for three hours or more is called a blizzard. During a blizzard, it is extremely cold and heavy falls of snow and strong winds cause problems. It is difficult to see because there is so much snow blowing through the air. People have to dress in very warm clothes when there is a blizzard. This is because there is a danger of frostbite if suitable clothes are not worn. When a blizzard ends, cars often have to be dug out of deep piles of snow called snow drifts.



Snow drifts bury cars deep in snow

2.

Stormy Weather

1 What does this sheet tell you about?

Tick **one**.

the weather in England

☐

different kinds of weather

☐

different kinds of storm

☐

storms in seasons

☐

2 What is thunder?

Tick **one**.

rain and wind together

☐

hot air exploding

☐

lightning and sand
rubbing together

☐

sun heating up the
clouds in the sky

☐

- 3 Which words tell you that you should not be afraid of thunder?
-
- 4 Which section of the information sheet tells you about blizzards?
Write the heading.
-
- 5 What can people do to keep safe if they go out in a blizzard?
-
- 6 In this section, **find** and **copy one** word that means *right for the purpose*.
-
- 7 Look at the section called *Storms at Sea*.
What are breakers?
-
- 8 How can storms be dangerous for baby sea turtles?

Tick **one**.

They can be washed
onto the shore.

☐

Sand can be blown into
their eyes.

☐

Sand can cover their
homes.

☐

They can be frozen in
ice and snow.

☐

- 9 What can sailors do to find out if a storm is coming?
-

10 What happens during a sandstorm?

Tick **one**.

Waves crash onto the beach.

☐

Thunder can be heard overhead.

☐

Blizzards mean it is hard to see.

☐

Wind blows sand through the air.

☐

11 How can sandstorms change rocks in the desert?

12 Here is some more information about storms.

Tick to show where each sentence should go.

Tick only **one** box in each row.

The first one is done for you.

	Introduction	Thunderstorms explained	Sandstorms	Snowstorms	Storms at sea
Storms happen all over the world.	✓				
Lightning can strike tall buildings and cause trees to catch fire.					
Icy cold winds make walking dangerous.					
People can lose their way as the desert landscape is changed.					