

Modified Text by A. Mettler

EXTREME WEATHER



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THUNDERSTORMS

Thunderstorms need three ingredients in order for the clouds to form:

- **Water in the air**
- **Hot area on earth that heats the air**
- **Very warm air**

How Lightning and Thunder Are Made

- Electricity in the clouds separates and lightning comes from the cloud
 - Lightning will always try to hit the closest thing to the sky so the taller the object is, the more likely it is to be hit with lightning
 - **The sound of thunder comes from the hot electric bolt of lightning heating the air around it *very quickly***
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Blizzards

Blizzards are caused by strong winds and low temperatures, which create large clouds of snow that can:

- Make it hard to see outside
- Cover cars, house doors, roads, and more
- Break trees or buildings with the weight of the snow
- Create power outages by breaking or damaging electrical lines

The image is a collage. On the left, a beach is covered with a large pile of driftwood, including logs and planks. In the background, the ocean waves are breaking on the shore under a clear blue sky. On the right, a satellite view of a hurricane is shown, featuring a distinct eye and swirling cloud patterns over a dark ocean surface.

HURRICANES

- The most powerful storms seen on earth, causing a lot of damage
- Form from warm tropical water and become enormous swirling mixture of air and water
- Can be 90 -100 miles wide and are so big they can be seen from space!



QUESTION: What causes the sound of thunder?



- A. Clouds crashing together in the sky
- B. Lightening heating the air around it very quickly
- C. Thor's hammer

