

TOPIC PACKS · K-Y4

# Weather & Climate

Five days about what's in the sky

## Day 1 — Weather vs climate

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## Day 2 — Measuring weather

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**Day 3 — The water cycle**


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**Day 4 — Climate zones**


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**Day 5 — Extreme weather & climate change**


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**Weather and climate — at a glance**

Concept	Weather	Climate
Time scale	Hours, days	Decades, centuries
Where you find it	On the news today	In encyclopedias
Example	It's raining	It's a temperate climate



Concept	Weather	Climate
Predictability	Forecast a few days ahead	Patterns over many years
What measures it	Thermometer, rain gauge	Long-term records, satellite data
Affects	What you wear today	What plants and animals live somewhere

## Weather facts to wow children with

**Highest temperature ever recorded**

56.7°C in Death Valley, USA, 1913

**Lowest temperature ever recorded**

-89.2°C at Vostok Station, Antarctica, 1983

**Most rain in 24 hours**

1,825mm at La Réunion island, 1966

**Strongest tornado wind speed**

Over 480 km/h — Bridge Creek-Moore tornado, Oklahoma 1999

**Why is the sky blue?**

Sunlight is many colours mixed together. Blue light scatters in air more than other colours, so we see the sky as blue

**Why are sunsets red/orange?**

When sun is low, light travels through more atmosphere. Most blue light is scattered away, leaving red and orange to reach your eyes

**How fast is the wind in a hurricane?**

Above 119 km/h to count as a hurricane. The strongest can reach 300+ km/h

