

# Thunderstorms



**Essential Questions:** What is a thunderstorm?  
What is lightning?  
What is hail?  
How are these things related?

Click on the **Thunderstorm** link and answer the questions below.

1. What is a thunderstorm? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What are the basic ingredients in a thunderstorm? \_\_\_\_\_
3. When are thunderstorms most likely to occur? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many thunderstorms occur each day on the Earth? \_\_\_\_\_
5.  *True or False* (circle one): Thunderstorms are never dangerous.

There are many components in a thunderstorm. Three of them are thunder, lightning, and hail. Use the website to fill in the chart below with facts about each component.

Question:	Thunder	Lightning	Hail
What is it?			
Is it dangerous?			
Why?			
Write one more interesting fact.			

Click on the **Lightning #1** link and answer the questions below.



Watch the video and answer the following questions



Click on "See Lightning Photos" to look at some beautiful photos.

6. How often does lightning occur? \_\_\_\_\_

7. What is lightning? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Where does lightning mostly occur in the U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_

9.  **True or False** (circle one): Lightning kills more people than hurricanes or tornadoes.

10. You should **NOT** take shelter here when there is lightning.

a. inside a building

b. in a hard topped car

c. under a tree

Click on the **Lightning #2** link.

- Look at the map on the "WeatherBug" website.
- What is the symbol for lightning on this map?
- Draw that symbol in this box.
- When were these lightning strikes recorded?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Now mark the map of the U.S. with the lightning strikes indicated on the map.



Click on the **Hail** link.



11. What was the biggest hailstone they men collected on that day? \_\_\_\_\_

12. What sports ball was it compared to?  
\_\_\_\_\_

13.  **True or False** (circle one):

Any hailstone bigger than one inch triggers a severe storm warning by the National Weather Service.

Cut a circle the same size as the hailstone  
in the video and glue it here.

