

# Clouds

**All you want to know about clouds!**

**No. 1**  
**In the**

**Early Readers Series**



# Clouds

Produced by Lilibette's Resources

**No. 1**

**In the  
Early Readers Series**

Text © J. Arrowsmith 2019

Illustrations © V. Conway 2019

Photos © Dafydd ap Pedr 2019

[www.lilibettesresources.com](http://www.lilibettesresources.com)

Clouds are made up of lots of water droplets which float in the air. Some clouds are up high and some lower down. Clouds can help us to know what the weather is going to be like.



# How are clouds made?

The hot sun shines on the earth. The water is heated and turns into a gas that we cannot see. We call it **water vapour**. We say that the water has **evaporated**.



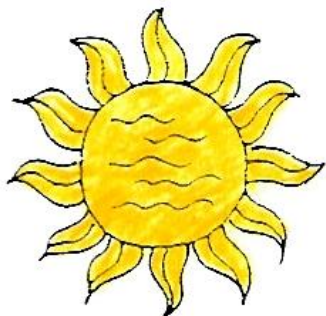
Hot air rises.

As it goes higher into the sky the evaporated water gets cooler and cooler until it is cold enough to turn back into water.

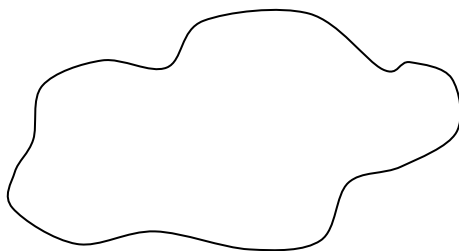
We call this **condensation**.

The water droplets or ice-crystals make clouds.





4. ...until it turns back into water droplets which make clouds.

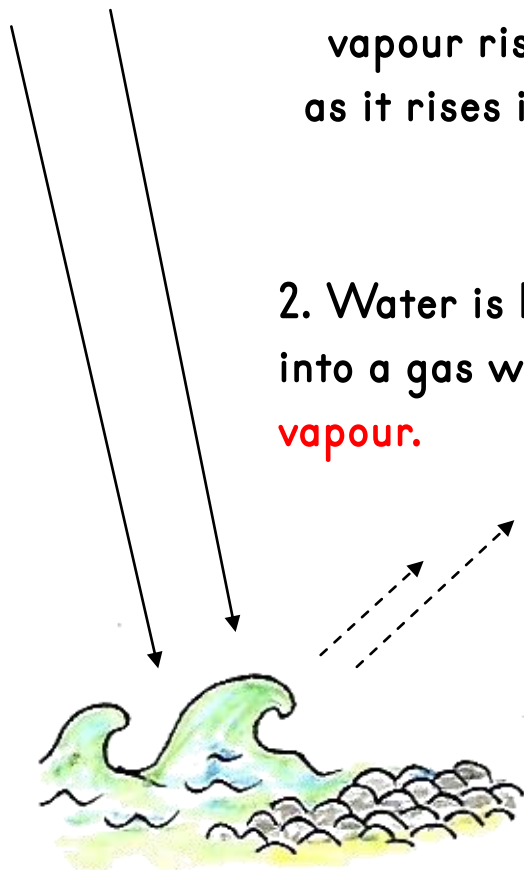


1. The hot sun shines on the earth.

3. The warm water vapour rises, and as it rises it cools...



2. Water is heated and turns into a gas which we call **water vapour**.



# How do clouds move?

Clouds are moved along by the wind.

The very high cirrus clouds are moved by a wind called the Jet Stream. It travels very fast, and tears the clouds apart making the wispy clouds we see.



# Why do clouds float?

Clouds are made of water that has been heated and turned into **water vapour**.

This means that they are warmer than the air around them. Warm air is lighter than cool air and so the clouds float.



# The types of clouds

There are three main types of cloud:

cumulus (cew mew luss)

stratus (strar tuss)

cirrus (sirr us)



# Cirrus clouds

Cirrus clouds are light, fluffy, feathery clouds seen very high up.

In the daytime they are the whitest clouds in the sky. They tell us that the weather is changing. They are made from ice-crystals.





# Cumulus clouds

(Cew mew lus)

Cumulus means a heap.

Cumulus clouds are rounded clouds like heaps of cotton wool.

The bottom of the cloud can be quite dark.

If they are high in the sky, then the weather will be fine and dry.

If they are low down, then rain  
may come.



# Stratus clouds

(strar tuss)

Stratus clouds are grey layers of cloud with fuzzy edges.

They can be seen at any height.

If they are seen at sunrise or sunset it means good weather is coming.

If they are low down, they may come with fog and drizzle, as in this picture.



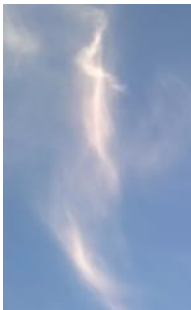
# Nimbus clouds

*Nimbus* means 'rain cloud'.

These clouds are dark and heavy without a shape. If you see a cumulus cloud getting taller and taller and darker, then thunder is on its way.



# Can you name these clouds?



Answers clockwise starting top left:  
cumulus, cirrus, nimbus, cumulus, cirrus,  
stratus