

LESSON 7

What other types of storms cause precipitation?



STEP 1: What do you notice about the cold front?

Watch the time-lapse video of a day when a cold front moved through Lyons, CO and observe how weather changes over time.

		SUNRISE TO NOON	NOON TO 4:00PM	4:00PM TO SUNSET
WIND	Wind speed:	<input type="radio"/> high <input type="radio"/> low	<input type="radio"/> high <input type="radio"/> low	<input type="radio"/> high <input type="radio"/> low
	Wind direction: <i>does it change?</i>			
CLOUDS	Cloud type: <i>what types are visible?</i>			
	Amount: <i>how much sky is covered with clouds?</i>			
PRECIPITATION	<i>When did precipitation happen?</i>			
	<i>Could you tell what kind: rain, snow, or other?</i>			
	<i>Was there a lot or a little?</i>			

- How is the storm in the time-lapse video different from an isolated storm?

STEP 2: Brainstorm different kinds of storms.

Have you been in storms that are different from the isolated storms you investigated before?

Describe storms that you experienced, and explain what made them different from an isolated storm.

DESCRIBE THE STORM YOU EXPERIENCED.	HOW IS IT DIFFERENT FROM AN ISOLATED STORM?

What other types of storms cause precipitation?



STEP 3: Interpret a weather forecast for a cold front.

The seven-day forecast below shows a cold front moving through an area. Work with your group to interpret what is happening before, during, and after the front.

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mostly Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Rain Showers	Sunny
Hi 68° Lo 55°	Hi 75° Lo 60°	Hi 74° Lo 60°	Hi 70° Lo 56°	Hi 70° Lo 55°	Hi 60° Lo 31°	Hi 47° Lo 30°

	BEFORE THE COLD FRONT (Sat. to Wed.)	DURING THE COLD FRONT (Thurs.)	AFTER THE COLD FRONT (Fri.)
TEMPERATURE	The highest temperature was:		
TEMPERATURE	The lowest temperature was:		
HUMIDITY & CLOUDS	We don't have humidity data, but we know clouds form with higher humidity. <i>When was humidity likely high or low?</i>		
PPTN	When did precipitation happen? When did it not happen?		

1. What do you think the air was like (temperature and humidity) in this location before the front?
2. What do you think the air was like (temperature and humidity) in this location after the front?
3. What do you think caused the precipitation during the front?