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TORNADO FACTS



DESTRUCTIVE AND FAST, TORNADOES ARE A RAPIDLY SPINNING FUNNEL-SHAPED WIND THAT STRETCHES FROM A CLOUD TO THE GROUND.



WHEN DO TORNADOES FORM?

Tornadoes usually form during thunderstorms. They begin inside storm clouds. These storm clouds are called cumulonimbus clouds. These clouds bring thunder, lightning, rain, wind, and even hail.

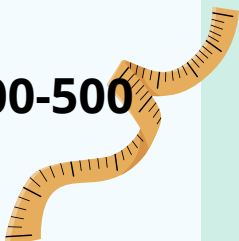


NAMES

Tornadoes are also called twisters. . A tornado over water is called a waterspout.

SIZE

Tornados average 300-500 yards wide.



LOCATION

The majority of the world's tornadoes occur in the United States of America, in the Spring. Tornadoes occur most frequently in South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and Colorado.



SCIENCE

Scientists who study tornadoes are called Meteorologists or Atmospheric Scientists.



TORNADO RATINGS

Tornadoes can reach wind speeds of up to 300 per hour!

Tornado speeds determine its classification using the 6-point Fujita scale, where F0 is the weakest, and F5 the strongest wind speeds.

Tornadoes can be so powerful that they can uproot trees, lift cars and tear roofs off houses.

TIME

Most tornadoes last less than 10 minutes. They are most likely to occur in the afternoon.

