WHAT DO METEOROLOGISTS DO?

Meteorologists study weather patterns and the atmosphere to understand and predict the weather. Meteorologists are interested in knowing as much about the weather as they can!



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A meteorologist's work is really interesting because there is always a chance of making new discoveries.



FIELDWORK

Fieldwork depends on the type of job a meteorologist does. For example, if they are researching extreme weather, they may investigate the scene after the event to prove a prediction they made, and learn more for the future. They mostly look at data from the past and present, and link it with other meteorologists all around the world.

LAB WORK

Meteorology uses data from satellites and computer systems to collect data, to help them predict the weather. They will also look at past data and forecasting to help them. They look to see what is happening in the atmosphere and check for changes in air pressure and wind speed. A meteorologist needs to be good at maths!



WHO DO METEOROLOGISTS WORK FOR?

We are used to seeing meteorologists on our TV and listening to them on the radio, presenting a daily forecast. However, there are many other places they can work too.

Meteorologists can work for private companies to help them prepare for climate events, as well as help and advise engineers who design energy-efficient buildings. Some meteorologists will work alongside other scientists to tackle issues such as climate change.

Meteorologists can also work for insurance companies, investigating the scene of an extreme weather event. Usually, a government will fund an agency who provide meteorological services to the government, businesses, emergency responders, and the public. In the UK, there is an agency called The Met Office, where many meteorologists work.

FAMOUS DISCOVERIES

Meteorology have made so many amazing discoveries that have changed our understanding of the weather, as well as our natural world as a whole. Here's just a few of the biggest and best!



AIR PRESSURE AND WEATHER

In 1643, an Italian scientist called Evangelista Torricelli noticed that changes in weather were connected to changes in air pressure. He created the barometer, an instrument that measures air pressure. This instrument is still used today to forecast upcoming / weather patterns.

GLOBAL WARMING

In 1938, a scientist called Guy Callender collected weather records from all around the world. From his research, he found out that global temperatures were rising. Even though his calculations were simple, his findings were very accurate and still hold true for our climate today.





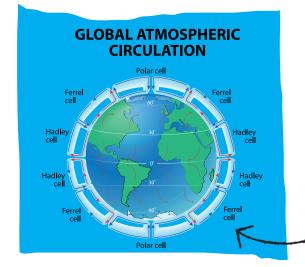
WEATHER FORECAST FROM SPACE

In 1969, NASA launched a satellite that was specifically used for meteorological research. Thanks to this space mission, scientists can now accurately measure the Earth's temperature, and better understand the atmosphere from above!

Meteorologists are making discoveries all the time, who knows what they might discover next!

FAMOUS METEOROLOGISTS

There have been so many clever meteorologists over the years. Here's just a few of the most famous.

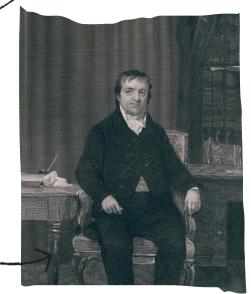


JOHN DALTON

John Dalton was a British scientist, famous for his research about the weather. In 1787, he made special instruments that helped him track the weather each day. These instruments helped turn watching the weather into a real science.

WILLIAN FERREL

William Ferrel was an American meteorologist who had a particular interest in studying wind patterns. He created a model to explain how the wind moves around the Earth. This model was named the Ferrel cell after his research, and is still used today!





ROBERT FITZROY

Robert FitzRoy was an English sailor, as well as a meteorologist. His travels allowed him to study the changing weather patterns. He created the first ever weather forecasting system. In 1854, he founded the Met Office in the UK, a national weather and climate service that is still used by people today.

These are just a few of the many meteorologists who have made a huge difference to the science.