



TELLING THE WEATHER

Weather Sayings from Folklore and the science behind these sayings

- Red sky at night, sailor's delight; Red sky at morning, sailors take warning.
- When ditch and pond offend the nose, look for rain and stormy blows.
- Chimney smoke descends, our nice weather ends.
- A ring around the sun or moon, means rain or snow coming soon.
- When clouds appear like rocks and towers, the Earth's refreshed by frequent showers.
- Rainbows in the morning give you fair warning.
- Favoured the Least is the Wind from the East
- Open Pine, Weather's Fine
- Closed in the Morning, It'll be Pouring

Reading Smoke can help determine atmospheric pressure

- Rising smoke indicates a high-pressure area. High pressure is associated with fair weather and clear skies.
- Smoke Collapsing and curling, indicates a low-pressure system area. Low pressure is associated with stormy weather.



Reading the Sky

- A red sky in the morning or evening indicates a significant cloud bank with heavy weather accompanying it. The folklore is not entirely true, at least in Canada. Prevailing winds come from the west, meaning when the sun sets with heavy clouds, those clouds are coming toward you.

Reading the wind

- The winds bring with it all kinds of weather. Canada's prevailing winds come from the west, wind from the east is a sign of unsettled weather to come. A developing east wind is a pretty sure sign that unsettled weather is on the way. Westerly winds indicate good weather if no clouds are apparent.

Reading the plants in nature

- Pine cones are hygrometers, in that they read moisture. Do you wonder if you need to bring an umbrella? Check the cones. When weather is damp or rainy, cones close and keep their seeds sealed inside. Once the air dries out, cone scales shrink and open, allowing seeds to escape with the breeze.
- Dandelion flowers close nightly, but if they're still shut in the morning, rain is on its way.

Reading the Animals around us

- A cricket's metabolism changes as the temperature changes. Count the number of times a cricket chirps in 14 seconds and add 40 to that number. The resulting number approximates the temperature in Fahrenheit.
- Birds can sense air pressure patterns.
 - ❖ If you see birds eating during a storm, then it will likely last.
 - ❖ If you see flocks of birds migrating in the sky, the weather will likely be good.
 - ❖ When a storm is approaching, it's believed that birds fly lower in the sky.

The calm before the storm

- Before stormy weather sets in, a low-pressure system pushes out an area's typical wind patterns creating a calm period before stormy weather

Using your nose

- A low-pressure system will cause molecules from decomposing plant matter in a swamp, bog, or pond to fill the air with a composting smell.

Reading Moon or Sun

- A ring or halo can form around the sun or moon..Haloes are caused by high altitude ice-crystals in Cirrus clouds. Because Cirrus clouds are a signal for impending rain, a ring around the moon usually means a warm front is coming, bringing rain with it. The same is true of sun haloes.
- A clear moon in a clear sky indicates no imminent moisture but could be Mean cooler temperatures overnight and into the morning.
- Scattered clouds over the Moon indicate moisture-laden clouds and possible rain.



Reading Rainbows

- A rainbow in the western sky in the morning indicates rain. This again is because of the prevailing winds in Canada. The opposite is true for a rainbow in the East. The prevailing winds will move the moisture and rain away from you.

Reading the Clouds

- Cloud Shape: high, white, and wispy clouds mean good weather; low, thick, and dark mean stormy weather; flat clouds mean stable air; while fluffy clouds mean unstable air.
- Cloud Color
 - ❖ Black clouds indicate a coming storm that does not have strong winds.
 - ❖ Brown clouds indicate a coming storm that has strong winds.
 - ❖ White clouds mean good weather, though a storm could be imminent.
 - ❖ Gray clouds indicate a new or a light storm. Gray skies can also mean that the storm is affecting a large area and may remain.
- Reading Altitude and Movement: High clouds usually mean that they are farther away but could become a weather threat up to 36 hours later. Lower clouds mean that bad weather is coming. Gathering low clouds are a sign of bad weather. Rising and spreading clouds indicate the weather is clearing
- Cloud Type: the type of cloud can provide more details on the weather, and well worth researching.