

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



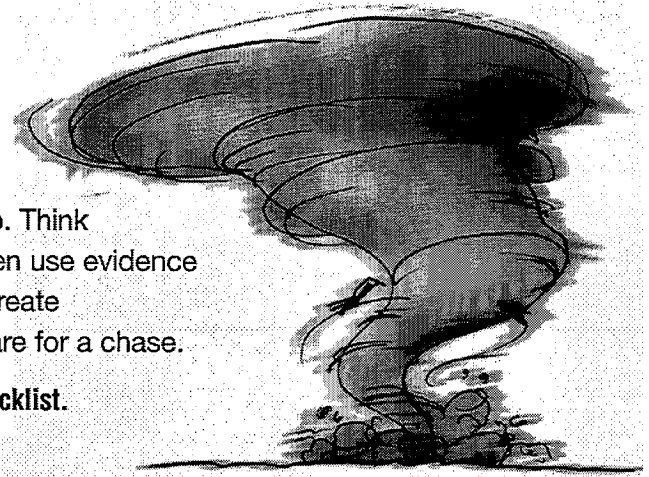
**Storm Chasers**  
Independent Reading

# Storm Chasers

## Nature Journal

Storm chasing is a risky and dangerous job. Think about the work storm chasers perform. Then use evidence from the text and illustrations to help you create a checklist to help the storm chasers prepare for a chase.

**Reread pages 66 and 70 and complete the checklist.**



**Tornado Chaser  
Checklist**

Materials/Supplies:

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Safety Reminders:

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Storm Chasers**  
Independent Reading

Reread pages 68 and 71 and complete the checklist.

**Hurricane Chaser  
Checklist**

Materials/Supplies:

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Safety Reminders:

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Reread page 69. Based on the pioneers of storm chasing, what do you think attracts people to the job?

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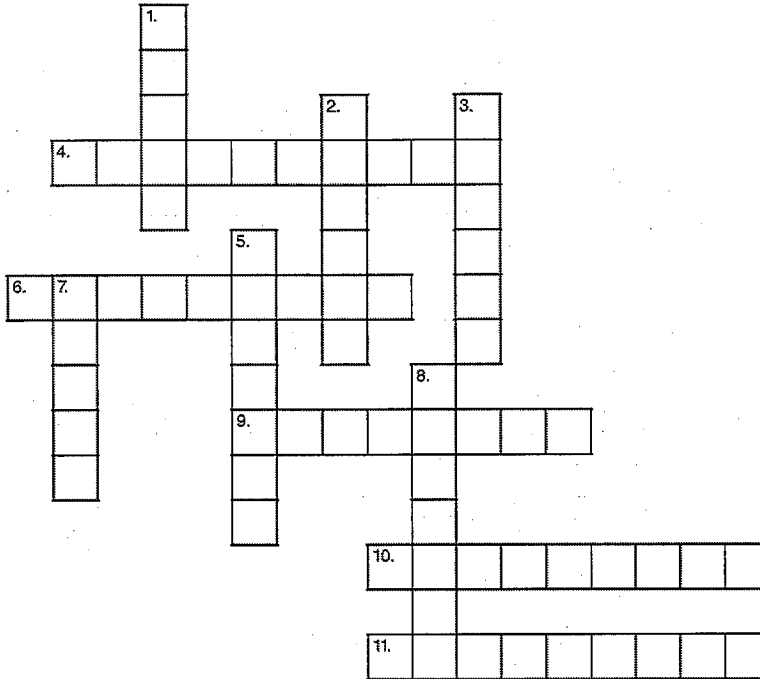
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# Words Often Confused

**Storm Chasers**  
Spelling: Words Often Confused

**Basic** Complete the puzzle by writing the Basic Word for each clue.



## Spelling Words

1. desert
2. dessert
3. hardy
4. hearty
5. moral
6. morale
7. laying
8. lying
9. personal
10. personnel
11. formally
12. formerly
13. healthy
14. healthful
15. precede
16. proceed
17. conscious
18. conscience
19. immigrate
20. emigrate

**Challenge**  
sympathy  
empathy  
imminent  
eminent

**Across**

4. a sense of what is right or wrong
6. to move into a new country
9. to move out of a country
10. people who work for an organization
11. good for you

**Down**

1. present participle of "lie"
2. robust, healthy, and satisfying
3. abandon
5. to move forward
7. a strong belief
8. to come before

**Challenge** You are an advice columnist for your school newspaper. Write an answer to someone who has a problem. Use three Challenge Words. Write on a separate sheet of paper.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Spelling Word Sort

**Storm Chasers**  
Spelling: Words Often Confused

Write each Basic Word beside the correct heading.

<b>Often confused verb pairs</b>	
<b>Often confused adjective pairs</b>	
<b>Other often confused pairs</b>	

## Spelling Words

1. desert
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11. formally
12. formerly
13. healthy
14. healthful
15. precede
16. proceed
17. conscious
18. conscience
19. immigrate
20. emigrate

**Challenge** Add the Challenge Words to your Word Sort.

### Challenge

sympathy  
empathy  
imminent  
eminent

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Proofreading for Spelling

**Storm Chasers**  
Spelling: Words Often Confused

Find the misspelled or incorrectly used words and circle them.  
Write them correctly on the lines below.

For centuries, we have assumed that the oceans were too hearty to actually be harmed by our everyday activities. However, we need to alter this misguided thinking. Scientists have formally challenged governments to address the problem. For those who were formerly uninterested in this issue, the desire to maintain healthful oceans should now be a matter of personal conscience. After all, the seas are all connected. We cannot emigrate to a new, clean planet. For many years, environmental groups have been laying the groundwork for international cooperation. Now that people all around the world are trying to work together, the moral of ecologists is high and it is time to precede. The moral we must learn is: We have the power to improve the environment, if we all make a conscious effort to help.

## Spelling Words

1. desert
2. dessert
3. hardy
4. hearty
5. moral
6. morale
7. laying
8. lying
9. personal
10. personnel
11. formally
12. formerly
13. healthy
14. healthful
15. precede
16. proceed
17. conscious
18. conscience
19. immigrate
20. emigrate

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 7. _____  |
| 2. _____ | 8. _____  |
| 3. _____ | 9. _____  |
| 4. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 12. _____ |

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Semicolons

**Storm Chasers**  
Grammar: Other Punctuation

A **semicolon** should be used between the two independent clauses of a compound sentence when there is no coordinating conjunction.

The clouds covered the sky; it was dark suddenly.

**Semicolons** can also be used to separate items. If items in a list already have punctuation inside of them, **semicolons** can be used to separate the items and to make things clearer.

The new students were Gabe from Johnson City, Tennessee; Linda from Chicago, Illinois; and Eric from San Francisco, California.

### Thinking Question

*What should be used to join two independent clauses without a coordinating conjunction?*

**Activity** Combine related sentences using a semicolon. If the sentences are not related, write "no semicolon."

1. The sky was growing cloudy. It looked gray and threatening.

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2. We saw the storm clouds approaching. They were moving fast.

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3. The weather report on TV was wrong. Well, at least I got to stay home from school.

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4. I had time on my hands. I had to think of something to do.

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5. I thought about watching a movie. I found one about storm chasers.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Colons

**Storm Chasers**  
Grammar: Other Punctuation

Use a **colon** to introduce a list, to show time of day, and after the greeting in a formal business letter.

The weather is broadcast at **5:15 P.M.** and **6:15 P.M.**

Tornadoes occur often in the following states: Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri.

Dear Ms. Johnson:  
Please add my name to your mailing list.

### Thinking Questions

*Does the sentence formally introduce a list? Does it include the time of day? Is it the greeting of a formal business inquiry?*

#### 1-4. Rewrite each sentence, adding colons as needed.

1. We keep the following emergency supplies in the basement a flashlight, food, water, and blankets.

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2. The storm struck the coast at 230 A.M.

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3. The following storms can be very dangerous tornadoes, hurricanes, and blizzards.

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4. Dear Mr. Petros  
Thank you for your inquiry.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Using Parentheses

**Storm Chasers**  
Grammar: Other Punctuation

**Parentheses** are used to set off **parenthetical elements**, such as examples, explanations, or supplementary facts. This material is added to a sentence but is not vital to its meaning.

Storm spotters (called Sky Hawks) are always watching the sky for storm clouds.

### Thinking Question

*If the information in parentheses was removed, would the sentence still have its complete meaning?*

**Activity** Rewrite each sentence. Add parentheses where they are needed.

1. The encyclopedia Volume 10 has a very informative article about tornadoes.

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2. The National Weather Service NWS offers updated weather warnings for each state.

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3. The 1900 Galveston hurricane September 8, 1900 was a catastrophe for the Gulf Coast.

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4. FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency offers assistance for large-scale disasters

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# More Comparisons

**Storm Chasers**  
Grammar: Spiral Review

Some adverbs have irregular forms of comparison.

Irregular Adverb	Comparative (compare 2)	Superlative (compare 3 or more)
The cleanup went <b>well</b> .	The cleanup could have gone <b>better</b> .	Yesterday's cleanup went <b>best</b> of any we have done.
Our town fared <b>badly</b> in the storm.	Johnson City fared <b>worse</b> than we did.	Monroe fared <b>worst</b> of all communities.
Jan studies the weather <b>little</b> .	Brian studies the weather <b>less</b> than Jan.	Mike studies the weather <b>least</b> of all.
The wind doesn't blow <b>much</b> here.	The wind blows <b>more</b> in the plains.	It blows <b>most</b> in the city of Chicago.

**1-6. Underline the correct form of the adverb in each sentence.**

1. Damaging storms occurred (much, more, most) frequently in 2008 than in 2007.
2. Tornadoes occur (much, more, most) often in spring and summer.
3. The big storm scared our cat (little, less, least) than our dog.
4. Storms frighten our dog, Patches, (much, more, most) of all when she cannot find a place to hide.
5. Does it snow (much, more, most) in Arkansas?
6. It snows (much, more, most) in Arkansas than in Florida.

**7-10. Rewrite the paragraph. Use the correct form of the adverb in parentheses in each sentence.**

Which kind of storm do people dread (much) of all? Blizzards shut down travel (much) effectively than tornadoes. People can often prepare (well) for hurricanes than tornadoes, but tornadoes damage things (badly).

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Connect to Writing

**Storm Chasers**  
Grammar: Connect to Writing

Sentence with Errors	Corrected Sentence
Connie's report covered the following topics conditions for storms and preparing for storms.	Connie's report covered the following topics: conditions for storms and preparing for storms.

Sentence with Errors	Corrected Sentence
The weather map Chart B accurately tracked the storm.	The weather map (Chart B) accurately tracked the storm.

**Activity** Find the errors in punctuation in each sentence. Rewrite each sentence correctly.

1. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NOAA predicted a catastrophic storm.

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2. The following facts are important Earth's atmosphere is growing warmer, polar ice is melting, and unstable air masses appear to be causing more destructive storms.

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3. Dear Mr. Hilleson  
Enclosed you will find the following items a check for \$350, directions for continuing disaster relief, and contact information.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Focus Trait: Organization

**Storm Chaser**  
Writing: Organization

Grouping ideas into paragraphs and maintaining time order is an important skill. Read the sentences below. Rewrite them in a paragraph that makes sense.

## Ideas

- Only the next few seconds would tell.
- The wind grew to a roar, and I watched a funnel cloud approach
- Branches from trees snapped off at the trunks.
- The day started out as beautiful but rapidly changed into a terror.
- Would it hit our house?
- My bicycle went skidding across the driveway.
- The sky grew dark, and the wind began to blow.
- It was the fifth of April, and I had just turned 14 years old.

## Ideas Organized into Logical Order in a Paragraph

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