

Wind Speed and Air Pressure

Wind speed and direction carry the weather. They also help	10
weathermen predict the weather. Weathermen can measure wind	18
speed and direction to determine how fast a storm is moving. Often	30
the winds blowing far up in the Earth's atmosphere are different than	42
the winds we feel on Earth.	48
Air Pressure has to do with the thickness of air. To understand	60
air pressure, imagine you are standing in a room packed with people.	72
There is a lot of pressure in the room. You can feel the person	86
behind you hitting your elbow. If someone opens up a door into an	99
empty room, people will start moving into the empty room until there	111
are about the same number of people in both rooms. Air particles	123
spread out in the same way. They always move from an area of high	137
pressure to an area of low pressure. A barometer measures air	148
pressure.	149
All of the weather's four main ingredients interact with each	159
other. As air particles respond to changes in pressure and move, they	171
create wind. On a very humid day, there may be many clouds in the	185
sky. When it is cloudy, many of the sun's rays never reach the earth.	199
What does this do to the temperature?	206