

**FOSS Air and Weather Module  
Glossary  
2005 Edition**

**Air:** An invisible mixture of gases. (TG)

**Air resistance:** When air pushes on an object moving through air and slows the object down. (TG)

**Anemometer:** A weather instrument used to measure wind speed. (TG)

**Barrel:** A large round container with a flat top and bottom of equal sizes. (TG)

**Bubble:** A pocket of air that forms when a gas rises to the surface of a liquid. (TG)

**Calm:** A wind classification that describes when there is no wind. (TG)

**Change:** To make or become different. (TG)

**Cirrus:** High, thin, stretched-out clouds composed of ice. (TG)

**Cloud:** A group of very tiny water drops in the sky. (TG, SS)

**Cold:** An air temperature between 0°C and 10°C (32°F and 50°F). (TG)

**Column:** A pillar. (TG)

**Compress:** To squeeze air into a smaller space. (TG)

**Cool:** An air temperature between 10°C and 20°C (50°F and 65°F). (TG)

**Cumulus:** Big, fluffy, cotton-ball-looking clouds at low to middle heights in the atmosphere. (TG)

**Degrees Celsius:** The metric unit for measuring temperature. (TG)

**Degrees Fahrenheit:** A unit for measuring temperature. (TG)

**Direction:** The course or line along which something moves, faces, lies or points. (TG)

**Distance:** How far it is between two points. (TG)

**East:** A wind that is blowing from the east. (TG)

**Flying line:** A string attached to a kite. (TG)

**Fountain:** Something that uses compressed air to push water out of a container. (TG)

**Freezing:** An air temperature below 0°C (32°F). (TG)

**Gas:** A kind of matter that can be compressed, such as air. (TG)

**Gentle breeze:** A mild gust of wind. (TG)

**Graph:** A tool for organizing and comparing kinds of weather. (TG)

**Hot:** An air temperature between 30°C and 50°C (80°F and 120°F). (TG)

**Inflate:** To pump air into a container to make it bigger. (TG)

**Invisible:** Something that you cannot see. (TG)

**Kite:** An object-often made of a light wooden or plastic frame covered with paper, plastic, or cloth-that is flown in the air at the end of a string. (TG)

**Matter:** Something that has mass and takes up space. (TG)

**Measure:** To find the amount of something, such as weight or size. (SS)

**Meteorologist:** A scientist who studies the weather. (TG, SS)

**Moderate breeze:** An average gust of wind. (TG)

**Monitor:** To observe and record observations about something over time. (TG)

**Moon:** A natural satellite revolving around a planet. (TG)

**Move:** To change place or direction; to put in motion. (TG)

**North:** A wind that is blowing from the north. (TG)

**Overcast:** When the sky is gray and cloudy, but it is not raining or snowing. (TG)

**Paper towel:** A soft, absorbent towel made of paper that can be thrown away or recycled after use. (TG)

**Parachute:** A piece of cloth that catches air to slow a person or object that is falling. (TG, SS)

**Partly cloudy:** When it is sunny outside but there are lots of clouds in the sky. (TG)

**Pinwheel:** A toy that spins around when the wind blows on it. (TG)

**Plunger:** A device used to unclog drains and pipes. (TG)

**Precipitation:** Rain or snow. (TG)

**Pressure:** A force that acts on compressed air. (TG)

**Propel:** To push forward. (TG)

**Propeller:** Blades that turn around a center point to push or blow air. (SS)

**Rain gauge:** A tool used to measure the amount of rainfall. (TG)

**Rainy:** When the sky is cloudy and raining or drizzling. (TG)

**Rocket:** A vehicle used to launch things into space. (TG)

**Row:** A series of objects placed next to each other. (TG)

**Season:** A time of year that has a typical weather pattern that can be observed, compared, and predicted. (TG)

**Snowy:** When the sky is cloudy and snow is falling. (TG)

**South:** A wind that is blowing from the south. (TG)

**Star:** A celestial body that can be seen at night from Earth. (TG)

**Storm:** Weather that has strong winds and can bring rain or snow. (SS)

**Stratus:** Huge, expansive layers of gray clouds that hang low and fill the sky. (TG)

**Strong breeze:** A hard gust of wind. (TG)

**Submerge:** To put under water. (TG)

**Sun:** A star that is the center of a planetary system. (TG)

**Sunny:** When the weather is bright with few or no clouds. (TG)

**Symbol:** A picture that represents the weather. (TG)

**Syringe:** A cylinder and piston system used to draw up, measure and transfer liquids. (TG)

**System:** A set of objects that are related in some way and can be isolated for study; a group of things or parts. (TG)

**Tail:** A part of a kite that streams behind. (TG)

**Temperature:** A description of how hot or cold something is. (TG, SS)

**Thermometer:** A weather instrument used to measure temperature. (TG)

**Tool:** A device that is used to do something. (TG)

**Total:** A whole quantity; a sum. (TG)

**Travel:** To move a distance. (TG)

**Tubing:** A hollow cylinder that acts as a passage for a fluid. (TG)

**Vial:** A small container often used for liquids or pills. (TG)

**Warm:** An air temperature between 20°C and 30°C (65°F and 80°F). (TG)

**Water:** A clear liquid made of hydrogen and oxygen. (TG)

**Weather:** The condition of the air at a given time. (TG, SS)

**Weather balloon:** A balloon used to carry weather instruments into the sky. (SS)

**Weather instrument:** A tool that helps meteorologists measure weather. (TG, SS)

**West:** A wind that is blowing from the west. (TG)

**Wind:** Moving air. (TG)

**Wind vane:** A weather instrument used to observe the direction of the wind. (TG)