

# Winter Weather

Winter weather is a mixture of many different weather conditions. People find it hard to predict what the weather will be like day to day. One thing is for sure though, the temperatures are lower than other times of year, which means that you need to wrap up warm when you are heading outside.

## **Let it Snow!**

Lots of us love the snow in winter. The beautiful snowflakes land gently on the ground and build up a blanket of snow. Soft, fine snow is known as a 'powder'. When the snow is pushed together in your hands, it sticks and you can form it into shapes and snowballs. Many people enjoy making snowmen and some people even make snow sculptures.

## **Wild Winds!**

Wild, windy weather can make the temperature feel a lot colder. Winds can blow from lots of different directions. Winter winds tend to come from the north, near the Arctic, which is why they feel so much colder. Windy weather also brings snow and rain, as the clouds move across the sky.

## **Rain, Rain Go Away!**

Wet, rainy weather can be fun, but also dangerous. Jumping in puddles can be very enjoyable but lots of rain can result in flooding in some parts of the country. Children play inside more during the winter because it is often too cold or wet to play outside.

### **Winter Weather in the UK**

- In January 1963, temperatures reached their coldest ever in the UK, with parts of the country being  $-19^{\circ}\text{C}$ . Lakes froze over and some snowdrifts reached 4.5m deep.
- More recently, December 2015 was one of the warmest winter months ever recorded, with lots of heavy rainfall.

# Questions

1. What is fine snow known as?

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2. What can you make with snow that is more complicated than a snowman?

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3. What can make a cold day feel even colder?

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4. Why do children need to spend more time playing inside in winter?

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5. What is the coldest temperature in the UK ever recorded?

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6. In 1963, how big were some of the snow drifts?

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7. Why was December 2015 unusual?

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8. What is your favourite winter weather? Why?

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