

Worksheet 2: *Vocabulary List*

Beaver's Tail: A smooth, flat cloud band extending from the eastern edge of the rain-free base to the east or northeast. Suggests the presence of rotation.

Condensation Funnel: Made up of water droplets and extends downward from the base of the thunderstorm.

Enhanced Fujita Scale: Implemented by National Weather Service in 2007, this scale is used to rate tornadoes in a more consistent and accurate manner.

Doppler Radar: A radar tracking system that measure how fast the wind is moving.

Fujita Scale: A scale that tells how severe a tornado is based on wind speed and damage being caused.

Funnel Cloud: A cone-shaped cloud.

Rear Flank Downdraft (RFD): A downward rush of air on the back side of the storm that descends along with the tornado.

Supercell: Turbulent thunderstorms with strong updrafts of wind.

Tornado Alley: An area in the western portion of the US that runs from the western side of Texas up to North and South Dakota, known for its many tornado strikes.

Tornado: A dangerous windstorm whose clouds are shaped like a funnel. The funnel moves over land and destroys everything in its path.

Vortex: A whirling mass of air.

Wall Cloud: A wedge of slowly rotating clouds shaped like the base of a pyramid.