

12-6 What is precipitation? (Pages 290-291)

Precipitation: water that falls to Earth from clouds

What are the four kinds of precipitation?

- Rain
- Snow
- Sleet
- Hail

How does rain (water droplets) or snow (ice crystals) form?

- droplets of water and ice crystals always moving in cloud
- hit one another, join together
- falls when cloud gets too heavy

What is a blizzard?

Heavy snowstorm, strong winds, low temperatures

What is sleet?

Rain that freezes when hits cold air

What is an ice storm?

Rain freezes when hits the ground, forming sheet of ice

What is hail?

Lumps of ice (form during a thunderstorm)

Rain Gauge: device used to measure rainfall

- Can also measure snow after melted
- (Yet snow is typically measured by height)

Why should a rain gauge be placed in an open area?

It can collect an accurate amount of precipitation and not be blocked by anything