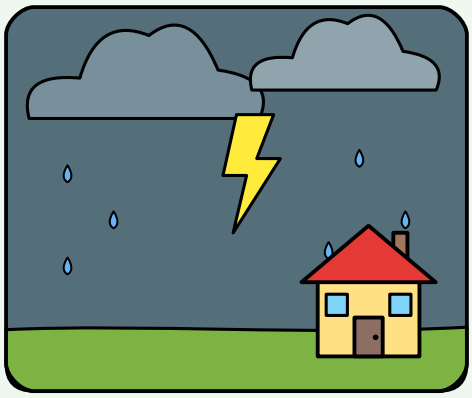
What Makes Thunder?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Flash! Boom! A thunderstorm is a storm with lightning and thunder. Lightning is a giant spark of electricity. It forms inside tall, dark storm clouds.



A bolt of lightning is very hot, even hotter than the surface of the sun. It heats the air around it so fast that the air bursts outward. That sudden push of air makes the loud sound we call thunder.

Light travels much faster than sound, so you see the flash before you hear the boom. When you hear thunder, go inside a building or a car and stay there until the storm passes.

1 WHAT? **What is lightning?**

a giant spark of electricity falling ice a strong wind

2 WHY? **Why do you see lightning before you hear thunder?**

Light travels faster than sound.

Thunder is very quiet.

Clouds block the sound.

3 **Use the word bank to fill in the blanks.**

Word Bank: rain sun clouds

1. Lightning forms inside dark storm _____.
2. A lightning bolt is hotter than the surface of the _____.

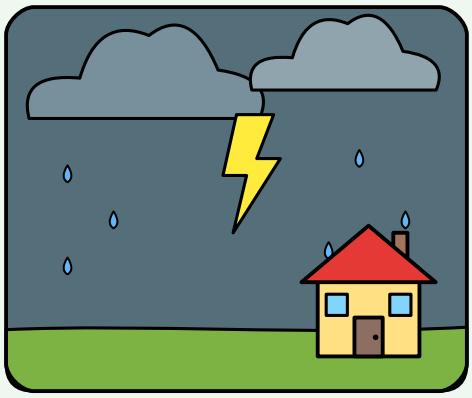
4 WHAT? **What should you do when you hear thunder?**

_____

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Answer Key

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- falling ice
- a strong wind

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