Weather Vs. Climate

W&C #8: I can differentiate between weather and climate.

Weather:

- **Weather** describes the atmospheric conditions at a specific place at a specific point in time

- Weather changes **day-to-day.** It is generally described in short time frames - minutes, hours, days, and weeks.

- At a given location, the weather may be cloudy and rainy one day and clear and sunny the next.
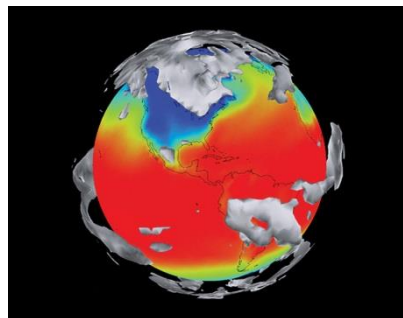
Weather:

- The two most important factors to focus on when looking at the weather is the current **temperature** and **precipitation.**

Climate:

- **Climate** refers to the statistics of weather. In other words, the **average** pattern for weather over a period of months, years, decades, or longer in a specific place.

- Scientists use two main factors, **average annual precipitation and average annual temperature**, to describe the climate of a region.

Weather or Climate?

- **It snowed 5 inches last night.**
- **Weather; recent weather event of snow**

Weather or Climate?

- **The skies are clearing.**
- **Weather; current conditions.**

Weather or Climate?

- **Katrina was the strongest hurricane to hit New Orleans.**
- **Climate; reference to a weather extreme**

Weather or Climate?

- **It has never gone above 100 F in the month of May.**
- **Climate; reference to a weather extreme**

Weather or Climate?

- **There is a severe thunderstorm watch for the local area.**

- **Weather; current weather conditions are leading to the potential of severe thunderstorms in the near term.**

Weather or Climate?

- **The barometric pressure is falling.**
- **Weather; recent weather change**

Weather or Climate?

- **It has not rained this month yet.**
- **Weather; no weather has produced rain this month.**

Weather or Climate?

- **There is a 40% chance of rain today.**
- **Weather**

Weather or Climate?

- **Texas is known for hot and humid weather.**
- **Climate**

Weather or Climate?

- **The high is 75∘F on Friday.**
- **Weather**

Weather or Climate?

- **Typically rainfall in June will be under 1 inch.**
- **Climate; reference to typical conditions and a value of typical rainfall.**

Weather or Climate?

- **The sky is mostly cloudy.**
- **Weather**

Weather or Climate?

- **This winter should be colder than normal.**
- **Climate; compares the expected winter to normal conditions.**

Weather or Climate?

- **This weekend it is supposed to be sunny.**
- **Weather**

Weather or Climate?

- **The average temperature for April is 55∘F**
- **Climate**