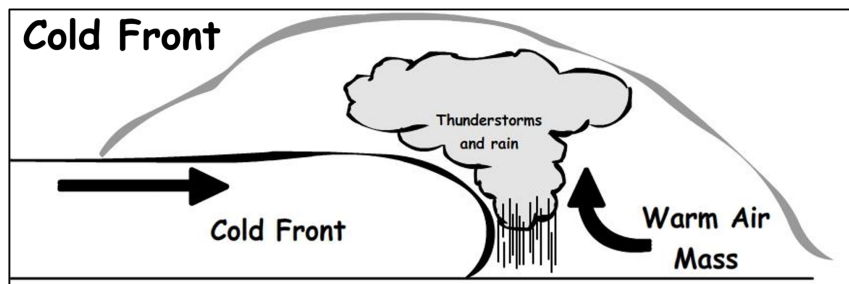
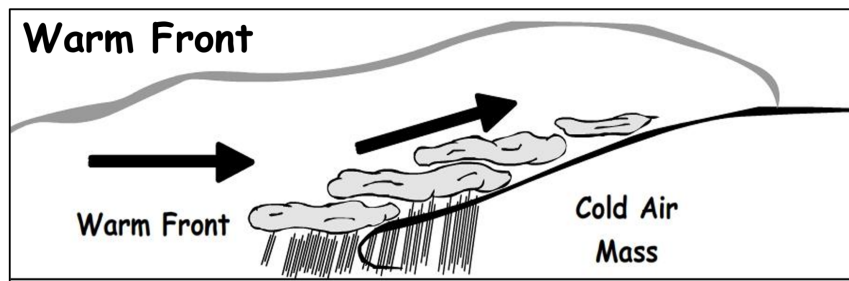


# Why Do We Study Clouds

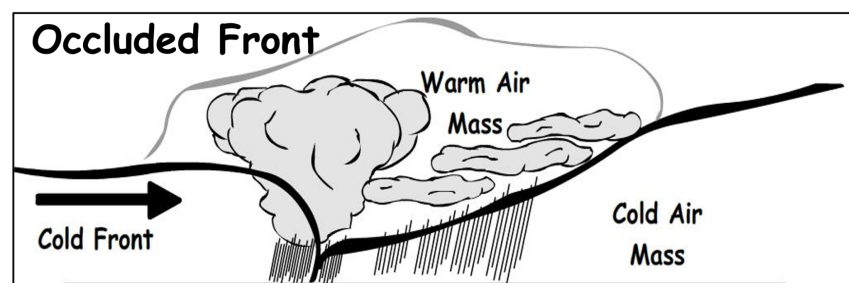
A **weather front** is a boundary separating air masses for which several characteristics differ, such as air density, wind, temperature, and humidity. Disturbed and unstable weather due to these differences often arises along the boundary **causing clouds to form**.



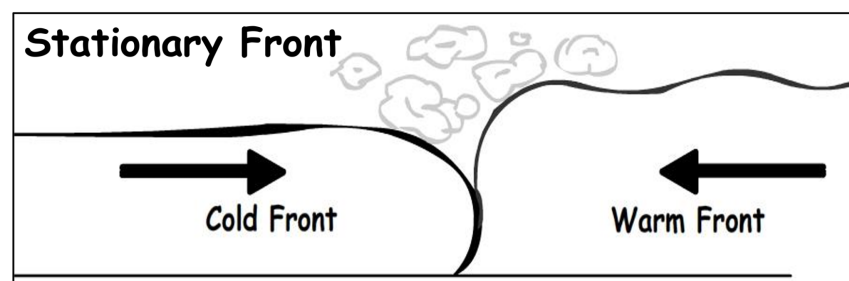
A **Cold Front** moves faster than a warm air mass. The warm humid air is pushed up and results in a short period of heavy rain and possibly violent thunderstorms.



A **Warm Front** moves slower than a cold air mass. The warm air rises steadily above the cooler air mass and causes gentle rain showers for longer periods of time.



An **Occluded Front** is a combination of two fronts that form when a cold front catches up and overtakes a warm front. The result is a mix of rain showers and thunderstorms.



A **Stationary Front** is the boundary between two air masses when neither is moving. Clear skies to partly cloudy skies may result, with occasional light rain.