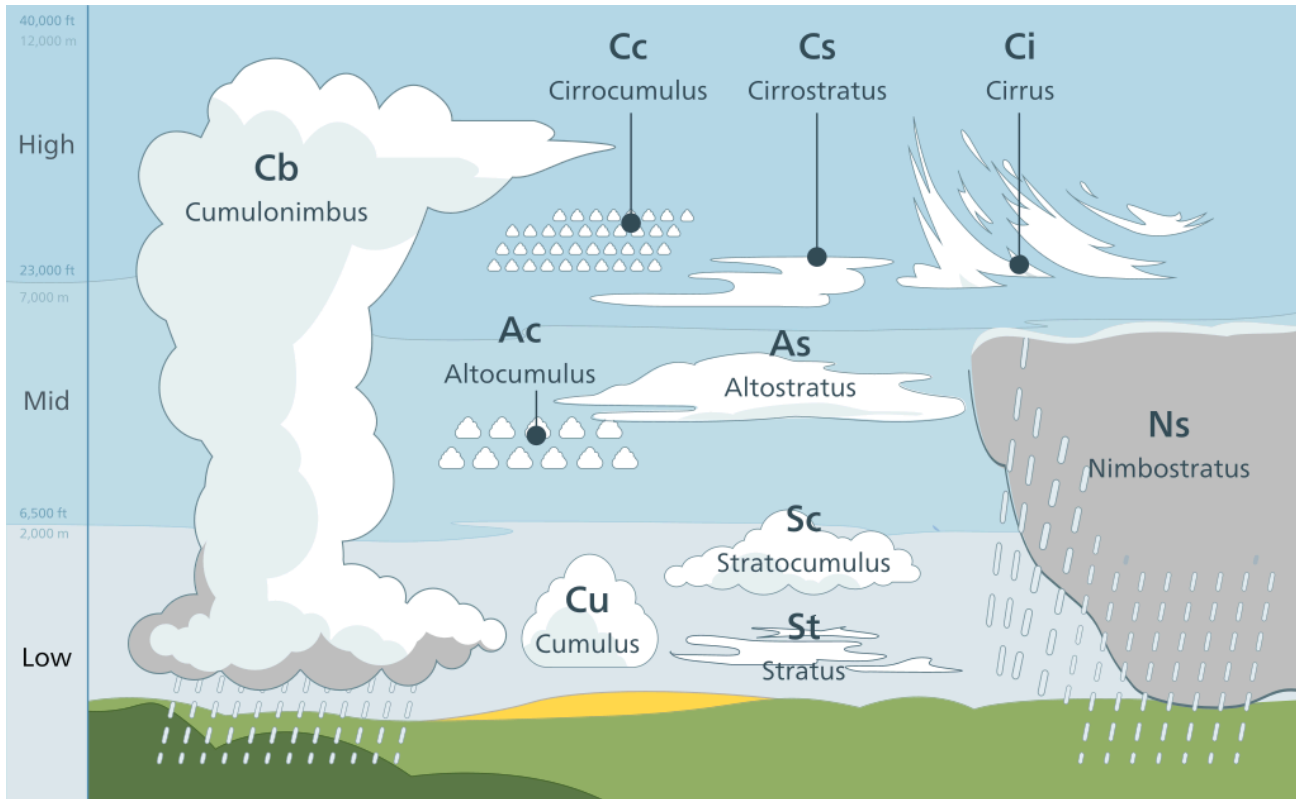


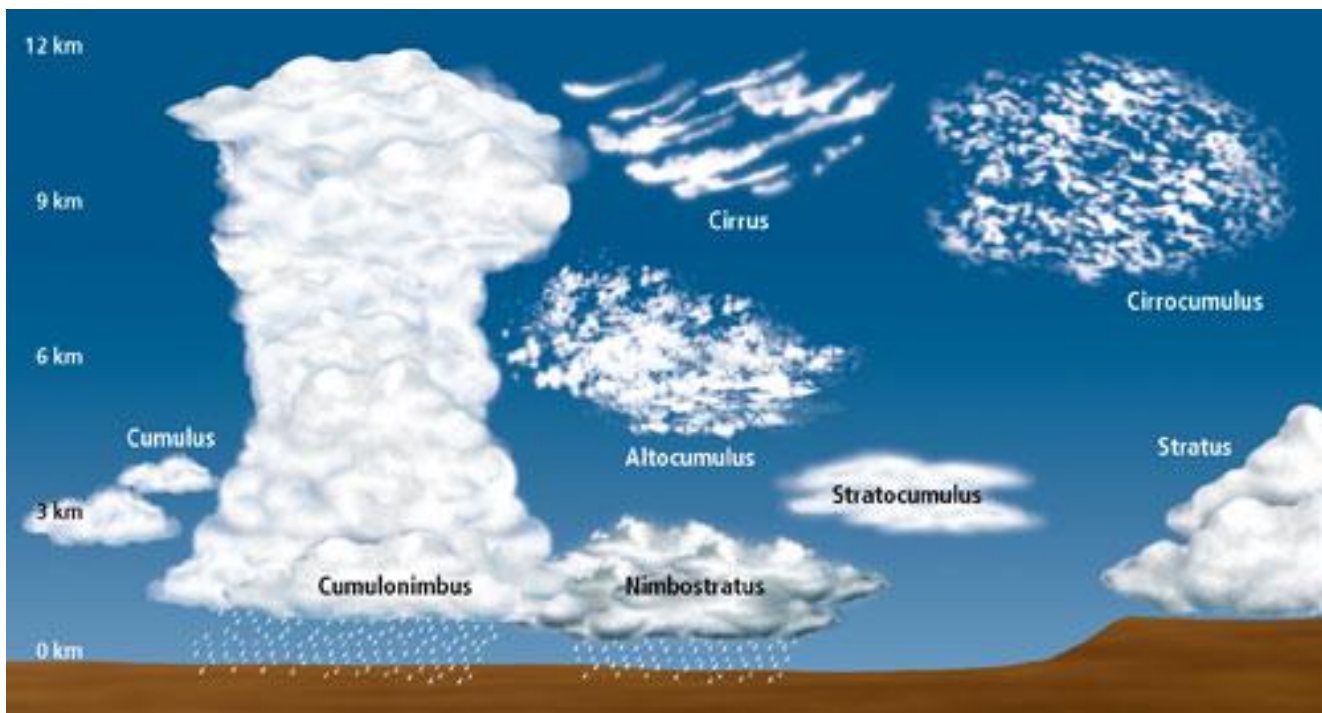
Cloud Scavenger Hunt

Name: _____

Go outside with your friends or family and hunt from your backyard, schoolyard. Try to **find and check off** these cloud types:



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cloud_types



https://www.weather.gov/lmk/cloud_classification

Cloud Characteristics

1. **Cirrus** – Thin, wispy clouds that look like feathers high in the sky and are composed of ice crystals.
2. **Cirrocumulus** – Mostly made of ice crystals, thin and white, they look like a sheet with grains and ripples.
3. **Cirrostratus** – Transparent, fibrous or hair like sheets of cirrostratus can look like a veil and can cover the whole sky.
4. **Alto cumulus** – Small, puffy clouds, white or grey in groups or patches up higher—sometimes look like sheep in the sky or lines of whip cream.
5. **Altostratus** – A gray or bluish sheet of cloud that can cover the sky without obvious shape.
6. **Stratus** – Low, flat, gray clouds that look like a blanket covering the sky.
7. **Stratocumulus** – Grey or white rounded masses or rolls, patchy with darker and lighter parts.
8. **Nimbostratus** – Thick, dark gray clouds that spread wide and bring steady rain or snow.
9. **Cumulus** – Generally fluffy, white clouds with clear edges, often flat on the bottom with cauliflower like tops.
10. **Cumulonimbus** – Tall, towering clouds (often called “thunderheads”) that can bring thunderstorms.

Clouds are made when **warm air rises**, cools down, and turns into tiny drops of water or ice crystals. All air has water in it—even though we can’t see it. Water droplets will condense in cooler air, often around a tiny bit of dust or pollen. Many condensed droplets form a cloud. Some clouds are made of ice!

How Different Clouds Form

Cloud Type	What It Looks Like	How It Forms
Cirrus	Feathery, wispy, and high in the sky	Formed when moist air rises very high and turns into ice crystals
Alto cumulus	Puffy groups in the middle of the sky	Mid-level clouds made of water droplets or ice
Altostratus	Grayish sheet covering the sky	Warm, moist air lifts and spreads out in layers
Stratus	Flat, low-lying gray layer like a blanket	Fog lifted up or weak air currents forming a layer
Stratocumulus	Low, puffy gray clouds	Puffy but spread thin—formed by gentle air motion
Nimbostratus	Thick, dark gray clouds bringing rain	Thick layers forming rain or snow over a large area
Cumulus	White, fluffy clouds like cotton balls	Warm rising air balloons up into puffy shapes
Cumulonimbus	Towering thunderstorms clouds	Strong warm air rises high, forming big rain clouds