

Tornadoes

A dramatic scene featuring a large, dark, swirling tornado-like structure in a cloudy sky, with several wind turbines in the foreground on a flat, open landscape. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, and the ground is a flat, brownish field. The wind turbines are scattered across the horizon, with one prominent one in the foreground on the left.

TORNADOES



Tornadoes develop in thunderstorms when unstable air that is rapidly rising and falling begins to change directions. The air begins to rotate, picking up speed. This rapidly spinning air forms a funnel. When the funnel meets the ground we call it a tornado.

- Tornado winds usually spin in an anti-clockwise direction in the northern hemisphere and in a clockwise direction in the southern hemisphere.
- Tornadoes occur more frequently in an area of the USA known as Tornado Alley. The most affected states are Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma and Florida.
- Tornadoes are sometimes called twisters.

Regions most affected by tornadoes in USA (Tornado Alley)



Swirling winds funnel down towards the land during a tornado.



Objects in the path of the funnel are drawn upwards by the destructive winds.



Destruction after a tornado in Oklahoma, USA on May 20th 2013.



Research Task:

TORNADOES: EMERGENCY PLAN

Questions:

- 1) How do tornadoes develop?
- 2) Where do tornadoes most commonly occur?
- 3) What measures do people take to protect themselves during a tornado event?
- 4) Write an emergency plan that could be followed during a tornado event.

Include appropriate headings, diagrams, and pictures. Include a bibliography to acknowledge your sources of information.

