

5.14 How does wind blow?

Topic: Weather

Subtopic: Climate

Activity type/skill: Text organisation

Literacy focus: Reading

Genre: Explanations

Objective

- Recognise the structure and language features of an explanation.

What you need

- Student worksheet (see next page)

What to do

1. Look at the student worksheet and read the text together. Point out that this is the sort of text they will often find in science or technical subjects to explain why or how things work.
2. Help them relate the labels – title, description, explanation, graphic – to the content of each section.
3. Help them to notice the language features of a text of this type:
 - Present tense verb forms
 - Impersonal pronouns
 - Words that link ideas, such as 'because' and 'when'.
4. Help them use the graphic to clarify the content of the text.

Extending the activity

- Find similar texts about natural phenomena in science textbooks or library books.

How does wind blow?

The wind is moving air.

Air moves because the sun heats the earth in some places more than it heats other places.

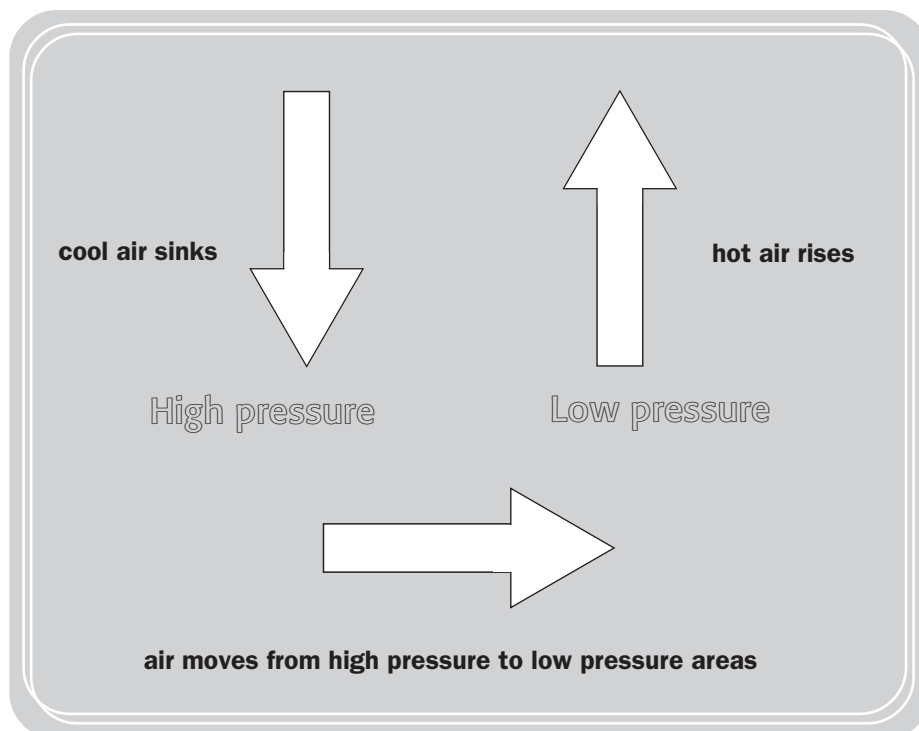
When the land or the ocean becomes warm, it heats the air above. When the air is heated, it becomes lighter and it rises. This leaves an area of low pressure.

When the land or the ocean becomes cool, it cools the air above.

When the air is cooled, it becomes heavier and it sinks. This creates an area of high pressure.

Cool air moves from high pressure areas into low pressure areas. It moves into the space left by the rising warm air.

In this way, the air begins to circulate. This circulating air is felt as wind.



Title

Description

Explanation

Graphic