

CLOUD IDENTIFICATION CHART

Meteorology Field Study Reference

HIGH ALTITUDE (Above 20,000 ft / 6,000 m)

Cirrus

Sketch Here

Wispy, feathery, ice crystals.

Cirrocumulus

Sketch Here

Small white patches, "mackerel sky".

Cirrostratus

Sketch Here

Transparent veil, creates halos.

MIDDLE ALTITUDE (6,500 - 20,000 ft / 2,000 - 6,000 m)

Alto cumulus

Sketch Here

Gray/white sheets, round masses.

Altostratus

Sketch Here

Uniform gray layer, "watery" sun.

Nimbostratus

Sketch Here

Dark, thick layer, steady rain.

LOW ALTITUDE (Below 6,500 ft / 2,000 m)

Cumulus

Sketch Here

Fluffy white cotton, flat base.

Stratus

Sketch Here

Low fog-like layer, uniform gray.

Cumulonimbus

Sketch Here

Anvil top, vertical growth, storms.

Observer Name: _____ Date: _____ Location: _____