**Quarter Two Weather and Atmosphere Vocabulary**

1. Meteorology – the study of weather
2. Atmosphere – the layer of gases around a large body in space, such as a planet
3. Altitude – the distance above sea level when discussing the atmosphere
4. Troposphere – where weather and life occur in the atmosphere
5. Stratosphere – where the ozone layer can be found in the atmosphere
6. Mesosphere – meteors burn up here, the coldest layer of the atmosphere
7. Thermosphere – Aurora Borealis and satellites can be found here, hottest layer of the atmosphere
8. Condensation – the change from water vapor to water droplets
9. Precipitation – atmospheric water that falls as rain, snow, sleet, hail…
10. Evaporation – the change from liquid water to water vapor
11. Runoff – water flow from precipitation that occurs over the land when the soil is already saturated
12. Warm front – when a warmer air mass moves into an area, causes long rainy days
13. Cold front – when a cooler air mass moves into an area, causing thunderstorms
14. Stratus – long, flat clouds; can accompany long rainy days
15. Cirrus – high, wispy clouds; indicate a change in the weather is coming
16. Cumulus – large puffy clouds; can develop into storm clouds
17. High pressure – a system which can display cool, dry air
18. Low pressure – a system which can display warm, wet air
19. Hurricane – a violent, rotating storm which occurs in the tropics and has winds of more than 74 mph
20. Tornado – a violent, rotating column of wind
21. Thunderstorm – a storm produced by cumulonimbus clouds, often accompanied by heavy rain and winds
22. Jet stream – fast moving, narrow wind currents found at the boundary between the troposphere and stratosphere
23. Greenhouse Effect - increase in the surface temperature of a planet caused by the absorption and emitting of infrared radiation by CO2
24. Ozone layer – a layer around the Earth which protects it from ultraviolet radiation
25. Convection – the movement caused by the rising of heated gases/liquids and the falling of cooled gases/liquids