

# Thunderstorms



## Thunderstorms

- Thunderstorms develop in hot humid tropical areas like India.
- The rising temperatures produce strong upward rising winds and these winds carry water droplets upwards where they freeze and fall down again.
- The swift movement of the falling water droplets along with the rising air creates lightning and sound and it is called thunderstorm.
- During a thunderstorm water releases heat when it changes from vapor to rain in the atmosphere.
- Thunderstorm accompanied by lightning can cause loss of life and material.



## Precautions during Thunderstorm

**We should take the following precautions during a thunderstorm to protect ourselves from lightning:**

- We should not sit near a window during lightning. Open garages, storage shed and metal sheds are also not safe places to take shelter during lightning.
- We should not take shelter under an umbrella with a metallic end during lightning. This is because metallic end of umbrella may act as a conductor for lightning and harm us.

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- We should not take shelter under an isolated and tall tree. This is because an isolated tall tree is more likely to be hit by lightning due to its nearness to the clouds. We should take shelter under a small tree.
- A car (or a bus) is a safe place to take shelter during lightning (because its metal body can conduct lightning to earth safely, without harming us).
- If we are in water when the thunderstorm begins and lightning takes place, we should get out of water and go inside a building.