

Name \_\_\_\_\_

ReadWorks

## When Lightning Strikes

World Almanac for Kids

"When thunder roars, go indoors," says meteorologist Ron Holle.

Scientists say lightning strikes the surface of Earth about 100 times each second. Thunderstorms are most frequent during the spring and summer. Experts warn people to be especially aware of the dangers of lightning during those seasons.

## Forces of Nature

Lightning is the flash of light that occurs when electricity moves between clouds or between a cloud and the ground. The huge spark of electricity is like the tiny kind you get when you run a comb through your hair or scuff your feet on a carpet—only much stronger.

A lightning bolt that crackles through the air can reach a temperature of 60,000 degrees Fahrenheit. That is about five times hotter than the sun! The intense heat from lightning causes the surrounding air to expand, resulting in the loud sound known as thunder.

Thunder is nature's warning to head indoors. As meteorologist Ron Holle from Tucson, Arizona told *Weekly Reader*, "When thunder roars, go indoors." A meteorologist is a scientist who studies weather.

Holle also recommends following the 30-30 rule. If you hear thunder fewer than 30 seconds after you see lightning, head indoors—the storm is only about 6 miles away. After the storm ends, wait 30 minutes before going outside. To determine how far away lightning is, count the seconds between the flash and the thunder. Every 10 seconds equals 2 miles.

## Play It Safe

Lightning strikes the ground in the United States about 25 million times each year! Although getting hit by lightning is unlikely, it is important to stay safe. In the United States, about 60 people are killed each year by lightning.

To stay safe, follow the golden rule—head for cover. "There is no place outside that is safe from lightning," Holle said firmly. "There are two safe places—inside a [permanent] building or a metal-topped vehicle."

Write your answers to the following questions on notebook paper.

1. The time between a lightning strike and thunder indicates the distance of the storm. What evidence from the passage supports this conclusion?
2. "Find shelter in a building or a metal-topped vehicle (not a convertible), and close the windows." Based on this safety tip, what can you conclude about the safety of cars during lightning?
3. Explain how the timing between lightning and thunder can help you stay safe during a thunderstorm

## 5th Grade AMI Packet Day 5

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. Draw a model to help solve  $\frac{5}{6} + \frac{1}{4}$ . Write your answer as a mixed number.

2. Patrick drank  $\frac{3}{4}$  liter of water Monday before jogging. He drank  $\frac{4}{5}$  liter of water after his jog. How much water did Patrick drink altogether? Write your answer as a mixed number.