|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CLOUDS** | 19/07/11 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Key Learning Points | Clouds come in many shapes and sizes.  Definitions:   * **cirro-**High up start with the word * **alto-** Those in the middle start with * **Stratus** means layers * **Cumulus** means heaps   The different clouds are:   * **Cirrus** are the highest clouds. They form streaks across the sky that tell you of strong winds. They tell of unsettles weather * **Cirrocumulus** are tiny balls of ice, often called “**mackerel sky**”. * **Cirrostratus** are made of icy crystals * **Altostratus** are made of water droplets * **Altocumulus** look like flattened balls of cotton wool * **Stratus** are thick layers of cloud and hang close to the ground. They can bring hours of rain or snow * **Stratocumulus** are long rolling clouds and usually mean fair weather is on its way * **Cumulus** means good weather providing they are not deep and you can expect the wind to be variable. As these clouds grow (**Cumulonimbus**) they begin to produce rain and you can normally expect them to produce stronger/strong winds.. * http://www.free-online-private-pilot-ground-school.com/images/cloud-types.gif**Cumulonimbus** are towering clouds that give us thunderstorms and even tornadoes. A very big one may be taller than Mount Everest. These clouds may grow in amongst small **Cumulus** clouds where you can expect shows to start, including snow or hail. As these clouds build so will the wind and you can expect the temperature to start to drop. |
| Activities | * Keep cloud, wind and weather diaries over a short period of time |
| Cross Reference | [Weather fronts (CSE003)](http://chamberssailing.org/Documents/CSE003%20Front.pdf) |