

Online Information

The Treacherous Tornado Mystery

Fascinating Facts

1. A tornado can toss a 2000-to-3000-pound van into the air!
2. A tornado that forms over water is known as a "waterspout."
3. The strongest tornadoes can last for over an hour!
4. In April of 1991, the Plains states saw 54 tornadoes in one day! States affected included Nebraska, Oklahoma, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Iowa.
5. Tornadoes can happen at any time, but they are most likely to form between 3 p.m. and 9 pm.
6. In the most extreme cases, a tornado's winds can reach up to 300 miles per hour.
7. Tornadoes may not be visible until after the funnel has picked up debris.
8. The destruction from a tornado can cover a very long path. In 1953, chunks of a mattress from Worcester, Massachusetts ended up in Boston Harbor, 50 miles away!
9. Tornadoes have been described as sounding like a train, a jet plane, or a waterfall.
10. The Fujita Tornado Damage Scale estimates the speed of a tornado by categorizing the degree of damage that a tornado caused. There are six categories, known as F-0 through F-5. F-0 tornadoes cause slight damage like broken tree branches. F-5 tornadoes cause disastrous consequences with just about everything demolished in their path.

