

Layers of the Atmosphere



Troposphere

Tropo- means “turning” or “changing”.

3 Facts:

- the thinnest layer
- closest to Earth
- where we live

Temperatures get colder as you increase altitude.



Stratosphere



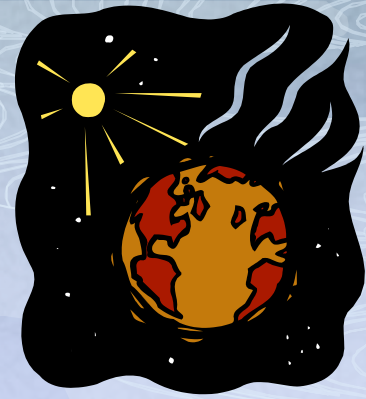
Strato- means “layer”.

3 Facts:

- second layer
- contains the ozone layer
- traps heat

Temperatures get **warmer** as you increase altitude.

Ozone Layer



Ozone is a type of oxygen gas that is helpful in blocking out radiation from the sun but harmful to humans.

3 Facts:

- part of the stratosphere
- can be damaged by pollution
- absorbs ultraviolet radiation

Temperatures get **warmer** as you increase altitude.

Mesosphere



Meso- means “middle”.

3 Facts:

- third layer
- meteors burn up here
- has coldest temperatures

Temperatures get colder as you increase altitude.

Thermosphere

Thermo- means “heat”.

3 Facts:

- fourth layer
- warmest temperatures
- gradually fades into space

Temperatures get warmer as you increase altitude.



Ionosphere

Iono- means “charged particle”.

3 Facts:

- part of thermosphere
- Aurora Borealis found here (Northern Lights)
- radio signals bounce off of particles

Temperatures get warmer as you increase altitude.

Exosphere



Exo- means “outer”.

3 Facts:

- part of thermosphere
- satellites orbit Earth
- gradually fades into space

Temperatures get warmer as you increase altitude.