

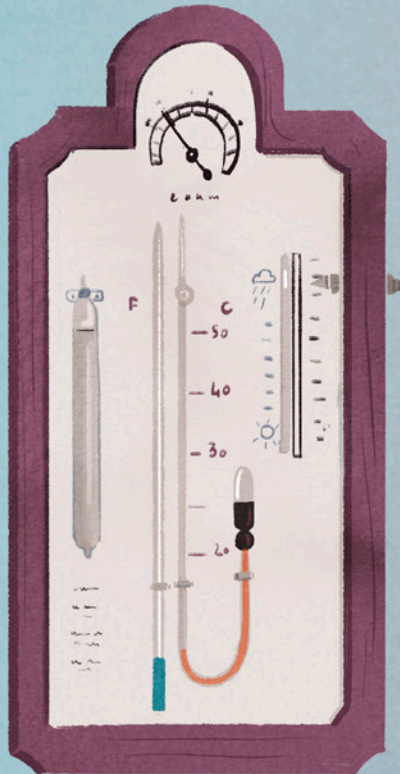
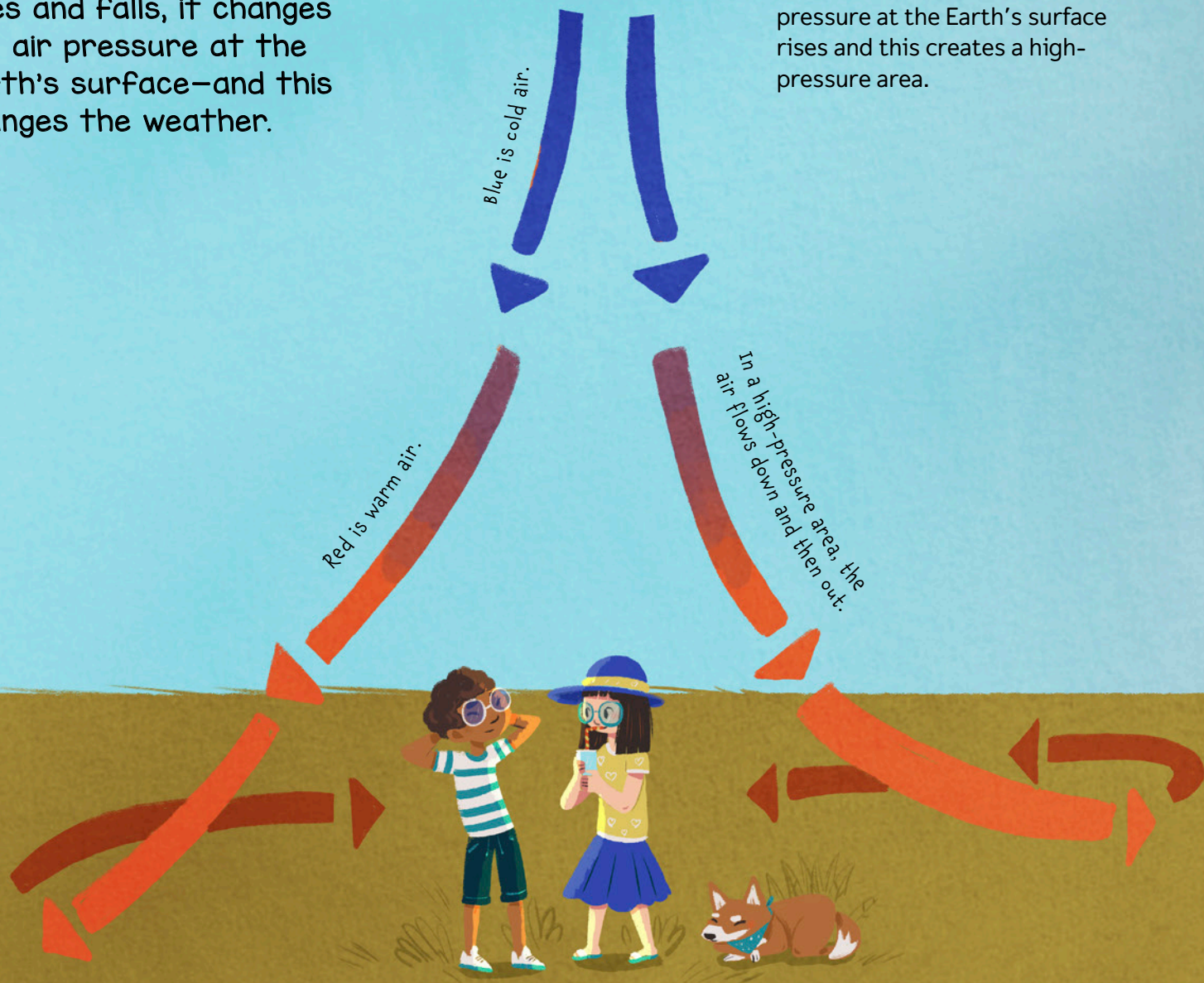
The highs and lows of weather

Air pressure is the weight of the air pressing on everything around. When air rises and falls, it changes the air pressure at the Earth's surface—and this changes the weather.

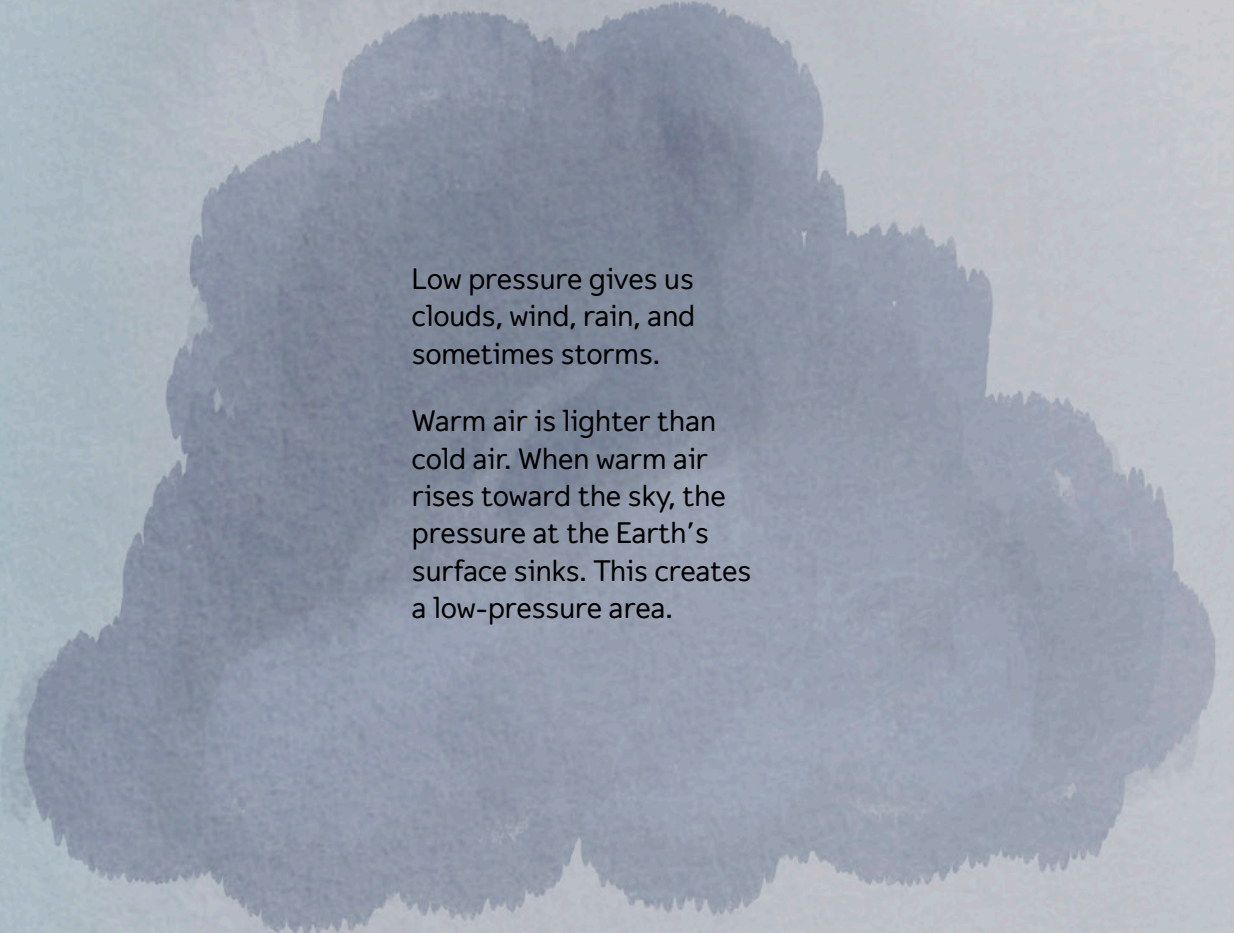


High pressure usually results in sunshine, clear skies, and calm weather.

This is how it works: Cold air is heavier than warm air. When it sinks downward, the pressure at the Earth's surface rises and this creates a high-pressure area.



A barometer is an instrument that measures air pressure. Barometers help scientists to predict the weather.



Low pressure gives us clouds, wind, rain, and sometimes storms.

Warm air is lighter than cold air. When warm air rises toward the sky, the pressure at the Earth's surface sinks. This creates a low-pressure area.

