

# OUR WEATHER, OUR EARTH

## Phonics

### Vowel Patterns

*aw, au, augh, al*

*awful*

## Comprehension

### Make and Confirm

#### Predictions

Make a prediction about the changes to the planet that Lisa's mom will talk about.



“It’s raining. This is just awful. Now we can’t go to the park,” Lisa cried.

“But farmers need the rain or their crops won’t grow,” Mom said. “Water is one of our most important **resources.**”

“But it changes our plans,” Lisa said.

“Weather changes more than plans,” Mom said with a smile. “It can change the planet.”

“How does it do that?” Lisa asked.

“Earth changes all the time, and weather is part of that change,” Mom explained. “We watch seasons change as summer becomes autumn, or as winter becomes spring. But those are small changes.”

“What are some of the big changes?” Lisa asked.



“You’ve seen pictures of deserts,” Mom said. “Some deserts were once forests, but when the weather changed, so did Earth. Without rain, plants can’t grow. Without rain, the forests went away.”

“I never thought about how weather affects the **environment**,” Lisa said.

“It can make other changes, too,” Mom said. “Rain can wear away dirt and rocks. You’ve seen pictures of the Grand Canyon. That is the kind of change rain can make.”

“So it can’t rain all the time, but it can’t be dry all the time,” Lisa said. “We need **balance** or we could wash away or become a desert.”

“That’s right, Lisa,” Mom said. “But I’m still sorry your plans got changed!”



### Academic Vocabulary

**environment** noun that means the natural world



### Unlock the Meaning of the Text

**Make and Confirm Predictions** Was the prediction you made in the beginning correct? Predictions use what you read in the text and what you know. What information did you need to help you predict?

**Academic Vocabulary** Find the words *resources* and *balance*. With a partner, take notes on words and phrases in the text that help you understand each word.