Weather vs Climate: What's the Difference?

Join Finn the Dolphin as he explores the atmosphere and maps the world's weather!

- **Weather is what happens in the air right now or over a few days, such as a sudden rain shower or a sunny afternoon.**
- **Climate is the average weather pattern of a place over a very long time, usually 30 years or more.**
- **Meteorologists are scientists who use special tools like thermometers and anemometers to predict the weather.**
- **The Equator is the middle of the Earth; places here usually have a tropical climate, which is warm and wet all year.**
- **The North and South Poles have polar climates, meaning they stay freezing cold for most of the year.**
- **Precipitation is a fancy word for any form of water falling from the sky, including rain, snow, sleet, or hail.**

> *Did you know? Did you know? The hottest temperature ever recorded on Earth was in the desert, but some places in Antarctica are so cold that the air can actually freeze into ice crystals!*

Key vocabulary: Atmosphere · Precipitation · Temperature · Climate · Meteorologist · Tropical · Polar