

# Terrible Tornadoes

7 Tornadoes are sometimes called twisters. They are  
17 very large and fast spirals of air that come from  
25 a thunderstorm on the ground. They are often  
34 grey in colour and look like an elephant's trunk  
43 spinning from the sky to the floor. Tornadoes can  
52 have wind speeds of up to three hundred miles-  
62 per-hour so they can cause a lot of damage.  
66 They can easily destroy  
69 large buildings, pull  
74 trees out of the ground  
78 and can even carry  
83 cars through the air for  
87 a long distance. Most  
92 tornadoes only last for a  
97 few minutes but no one  
102 quite knows how or why  
104 they stop.



## Quick Questions



1. What are tornadoes sometimes called?

\_\_\_\_\_



2. How might someone feel if they see a tornado coming? Give a reason.

\_\_\_\_\_



3. '*...they cause a lot of damage.*' In this sentence, what does 'damage' mean?

\_\_\_\_\_



4. Number these facts from 1 to 3 to show the order they appear in the text.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Tornadoes are very large spirals.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Tornadoes only last for a few minutes.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Tornadoes easily destroy large buildings.

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# Answers



1. What are tornadoes sometimes called?

**twisters**



2. How might someone feel if they see a tornado coming? Give a reason.

**Accept any sensible inference that is linked to the text, e.g. They might feel worried because tornadoes are very dangerous and can cause a lot of damage.**



3. '*...they cause a lot of damage.*' In this sentence, what does 'damage' mean?

**Accept any answer related to damage meaning 'breakage' or 'destruction'.**



4. Number these facts from 1 to 3 to show the order they appear in the text.

- 1 Tornadoes are very large spirals.
- 3 Tornadoes only last for a few minutes.
- 2 Tornadoes easily destroy large buildings.