

For Release
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Formation of rain! Aristotle (350 B.C.) regarded rain as a condensation not only of water vapor but also from air itself. Much later, in the 18th century, Hutton, a British geologist, explained rain as being produced by mixing of two masses of air having different temperatures and amounts of moisture. Aristotle was wrong in part; cloud and rain may be formed as Hutton explained, but it is not the usual way. It is now known that rising, moist air is responsible for practically all condensation that occurs in the atmosphere. The first step is moist air rising, which expands and cools in the process forming clouds and precipitation.
