



# ICE CLOUDS



Current satellites lack sensitivity to measure the tiny ice particles that make up ice clouds from 5 km to 15 km above the ground. IceCube makes an important measurement for getting the full picture of precipitation.



Ice clouds start as tiny particles high in the atmosphere.

Absorbing moisture, the ice crystals grow and become heavier, causing them to fall to lower altitudes.

Eventually, the particles get so heavy, they fall, and melt to form rain drops. The ice crystals may also just stay in the air.



Learn more about ice clouds and IceCube at  
[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov)

