

# EXPLORE AND PROTECT THE EARTH AND ITS CREATURES



"All the members of this endless universe are linked one to another." —Bahá'í Writings

## EARTH-SAVING TIP

Water from the hose can contain chlorine, fluoride, and sodium, which can damage plants and soil. Use a rain barrel to save rainwater. It's better for the garden, and you'll reduce household water use.



## WOW, REALLY?

To estimate the distance of lightning, count the seconds between the lightning and the thunder. Divide by five to get miles or by three to get kilometers.



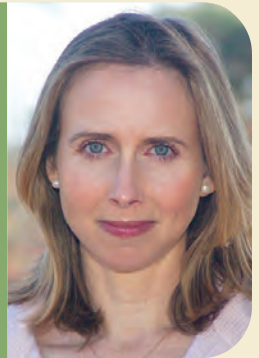
## OUR CONNECTIONS



Did you know that lightning bolts make the air hotter than the sun's surface? The air expands explosively, causing a sonic shockwave—the sound of thunder. As climate change warms the Earth, intense thunderstorms are increasing. These occur when warm, moist air cools as it rises. It condenses into a cloud of water, then pours down as rain or hail. Severe storms can lead to floods, tornadoes, and other disasters.

## PROTECTING OUR PLANET

**Dr. Heidi Cullen**, a climatologist in California, studies how human activity, like burning fossil fuels, leads to climate change and extreme weather. She was an expert for the Weather Channel and won a 2017 Rachel Carson Award. She says, "Climate change . . . [is] connected to everything from the energy grid, to population growth, to our water supply."



## WHERE IN THE WORLD?



Holi, a Hindu festival honoring spring and the triumph of good over evil, is celebrated in this South Asian nation. People show friendship by painting each other with colorful powders. *Unscramble the letters to find its name:*

ADINI

## AMAZING ANIMALS



These busy pollinators are critical to our food supply. Their legs have hooks that they use to hold each other and form a living chain, an act called festooning. It may offer support as they build a honeycomb. *Fill in the blanks to find their name:*

O  Y B  S