

Sequencing Events of A Tornado Answer Key

Correct Sequence:

1. B. Warm, moist air near the surface collides with cold, dry air high above.
2. C. Strong winds at different heights cause wind shear, making the air begin to spin.
3. F. Rising air tilts the spinning motion from horizontal to vertical.
4. A. A rotating updraft begins inside a powerful supercell thunderstorm.
5. D. A visible funnel cloud forms and stretches downward from the storm.
6. E. The funnel cloud touches the ground, officially becoming a tornado.

Sample Extension Response:

Each step leads to the next because tornadoes need the right mix of warm and cold air to create instability. Wind shear starts the spinning, but rising air must tilt it upright for a storm to grow stronger. The updraft fuels the storm, then the funnel appears and finally touches the ground, completing the tornado's development.