



SAVVAS

In The Eye of The Storm

Hurricanes

Hook & Inspire! Connections to Today

Ignite students' interest by sharing these resources, which demonstrate connections between the past and present. Please be sure to preview all resources.



Hurricanes

Throughout the world people experience a variety of nature's forces. One minute the sun is shining, the winds are calm, and all is right in the world. However, many times the opposite is true of Mother Nature. Hurricanes are a powerful force of nature, producing such powerful winds and flooding rains one minute, but also allowing a moment of peace as you enter the center or eye of a hurricane. In that instance, nature seems to give you a moment to collect yourself and prepare for the harsh winds and rains coming only hours later. Hurricanes are one of the most forceful natural events on Earth with no actual way to combat them. Cities and towns can prepare for a hurricane, but there is no stopping this force of nature.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1). What are the unique characteristics of hurricanes? How are they different from other storms?

Students may reply that people have more warning with hurricanes than tornadoes or tsunamis. They may also discuss wind and rain amounts. Students may reflect on past experiences involving hurricanes. Even students living inland may recall times of severe rain from hurricanes or tropical storms.

2). The Galveston hurricane of 1900 is said to have been the most deadly hurricane to date. What about this hurricane made it so deadly?

Student answers may vary depending on experience. The reason this hurricane was so deadly involved a lack of warning to the public. The hurricane hit and the town of Galveston was completely unprepared for it.

3). Hurricanes have a specific rotation, depending on which hemisphere they develop in. What is the difference?

Hurricanes rotate counterclockwise in the Northern Hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern Hemisphere. This influences which direction winds will blow from when a hurricane hits. This website discusses reasoning behind this phenomenon, including the Coriolis Effect. <https://scied.ucar.edu/learning-zone/storms/hurricanes>

Students will probably not know this fact, unless they have studied hurricanes prior to this discussion. It may be helpful to visit the above website to learn more about the patterns.

4). Hurricanes cause much devastation, however other natural phenomena may occur within the hurricane's path. What are some other issues that hurricanes bring when making landfall?

Students' answers may vary depending on experiences. Hurricanes often bring tornadoes to land areas as they move from water to land. They also bring devastating floods and often debris as well.

5). Scientists believe that climate change will affect the size and intensity of hurricanes. What are some changes that may occur involving hurricanes because of climate change?

Student answers may vary depending on past experiences. Scientists believe hurricanes may not increase in frequency, but the intensity of a hurricane may increase. The website: <https://www.c2es.org/content/hurricanes-and-climate-change/> discusses climate change and hurricane development.

Share the online resources below with your class to stimulate discussion on these questions. Be sure to preview the clips before showing or sharing them in class to ensure the content is appropriate for your students.

LINKS TO RESOURCES

Videos

- 1). [11 Worst Hurricanes Of All Time](#); This video discusses the top 11 hurricanes of all time.
- 2). [How Do Hurricanes Form?](#); This video discusses basic characteristics of hurricanes.
- 3). [Why Hurricane Categories Make a Difference](#); This video shows the different categories of hurricanes and provides background information about what might occur in each category.
- 4). [Storm simulator recreates Category 5 hurricane conditions](#); This video shows a lab that can recreate different levels of hurricanes.
- 5). [Lifeguards warn of dangerous rip currents fueled by Hurricane Larry](#); This video discusses ocean current changes due to Hurricane Larry.

Media

- 1). [Weather Wiz Kids: Hurricanes](#); This website gives charts and easy to read information for students concerning hurricanes.
- 2). [BoatUS: Hurricane Guide](#); This website gives information on how to prepare boats for hurricane weather. There are many great playlists.
- 3). [Hurricanes - Florida Climate Center](#); This website looks at hurricane activity and discusses the Saffir-Simpson Scale.
- 4). [Hurricanes: Science and Society](#); This website is devoted to all things hurricane related.
- 5). [Cat 3 Hurricane Larry bringing large waves to much of the Atlantic](#); This website looks at Hurricane Larry.

Websites

- 1). [National Hurricane Center](#); This is the national website for hurricane tracking.
- 2). [How the Galveston Hurricane of 1900 Became the Deadliest U.S. Natural Disaster](#); This website discusses the Galveston Hurricane of 1900.
- 3). [Hurricanes | UCAR Center for Science Education](#); This website gives detailed information concerning hurricanes.
- 4). [Hurricane Safety Tips and Resources](#); This website discusses hurricane safety and gives updates on the latest hurricane season.
- 5). [Hurricanes and Climate Change](#); This website gives detailed information concerning climate change and hurricanes.

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