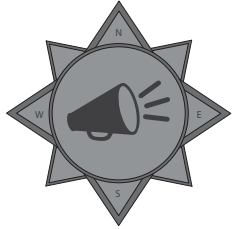


HURRICANE AWARENESS

Whew! Hurricane Harvey was a huge storm. Thankfully Eagle Heights was safe...this time.

We didn't know much about hurricanes before the warnings started, so we decided to learn more.



EARN THIS NUGGET

Trailblazers and RockHoppers:

With your parent's help, prepare a few items in a kit that can be ready at hand in case you have to leave your house in an emergency. Your kit should include food, water and safety equipment.

- Think about what you can do for entertainment during a power outage. Talk to your family about what they might enjoy doing.

Cragman:

- Prepare a communication plan for your family. Share it with your parents for their comments.
- Prepare a few items in a kit that can be ready at hand in case you have to leave your house in an emergency. Your kit should include food, water and safety equipment.

All:

Do you know anyone who is being affected by Hurricane Harvey. If you do, what can your family do to help them out? If you don't know anyone directly, what can your family do to help those victims? Donations, fund raising etc. discuss with your parents what you can do to help and implement your plan.

"Hurricane" is a name for a tropical cyclone. Another name is typhoon. Hurricanes are in the North Atlantic Ocean and eastern North Pacific. Typhoons are found in the western North Pacific around the Philippines, Japan, and China. These two names refer to the same type of weather system.

"Tropical" refers to the area where these storm start, near the equator. Cyclone describes the circular nature of the storm.

Tropical cyclones are massive storms that form over water and move toward land. These giant storms have super-strong winds and heavy rainfall.

They form over warm ocean waters near the equator. The warm, moist air above the ocean surface rises, causing air from surrounding areas to be "sucked" in. This "new" air then becomes warm and moist, and rises, too, beginning a continuous cycle that forms clouds. The clouds then rotate with the spin of the Earth. If there is enough warm water to feed the storm, a hurricane forms.

A hurricane has a calm area in the center with no clouds called the "eye." The eye wall, which surrounds the eye, is the most dangerous part of the storm. It has the strongest wind, thickest clouds, and heaviest rain.

Hurricanes occur out at sea. When they move towards land they can become dangerous and cause serious damage.

Hurricanes in the Atlantic are named based on a list of names maintained by the World Meteorological Organization. They are named in alphabetic order meaning the storms are named as they occur. The first hurricane of the year always has a name that starts with the letter "A." There are six lists of names and each year a new list is used.



HURRICANE AWARENESS

Names of major hurricanes are retired. Some recently retired names include Katrina, Ike, Rita, and Sandy.

The ten worst hurricanes since weather records have been kept are:

- * Galveston Hurricane, September 1900
- * South Florida Hurricane, September 1928
- * Hurricane Katrina, August 2005
- * Miami Hurricane, September 1926
- * Hurricane Andrew, August 1992
- * Hurricane Camille, August 1969
- * Labor Day Hurricane, September 1935
- * Superstorm Sandy, October 2012
- * Long Island Hurricane, September 1938
- * Hurricane Charley, August 2004



The largest tropical cyclone on record is Typhoon Tip which occurred in 1979 in the northwest Pacific. The diameter was around 1,368 miles. That is nearly half the size of the United States. Hurricanes and typhoons are categorized by the speed of the sustained winds.

- Tropical Depression - 38 mph or less
- Tropical Storm - 39 to 73 mph
- Hurricane Category 1 - 74 to 95 mph
- Category 2 - 96 to 110 mph
- Category 3 - 111 to 129 mph
- Category 4 - 130 to 156 mph
- Category 5 - 157 or higher mph

It is important to be ready for a hurricane. Even those of us living around Eagle Heights have an emergency plan for hurricanes.

1. During hurricane season listen to the weather reports. Hurricane season is June 1 to November 30. Typhoon season is January 1 to December 31.
2. Make an emergency "go bag." This will include things your family may need if evacuated, which can be grabbed quickly on the way out the door.
3. If your family isn't required to leave, plan to have water, food, and flashlights and batteries. Expect to be in your home for one week.
4. Make a plan in case some family members are away from home. The plan should include where they will go or how they will get home.
5. Create an emergency communication plan.

HURRICANE AWARENESS

Tropical Cyclone Preparedness Guide from the National Weather Service

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/hurricane/resources/TropicalCyclones11.pdf>

http://www.ducksters.com/science/earth_science/hurricanes.php

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2017/08/27/here-worst-hurricanes-and-floods-u-s-history/606389001/>

<https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tropical_cyclone

<https://www.natgeokids.com/au/discover/geography/physical-geography/hurricanes/>

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/hurricane/index.shtml>

<https://www.britannica.com/science/tropical-cyclone>

