

Busy Teacher Resources

September 19, 2005

HURRICANE KATRINA—Building the Courage to Face Disasters



The foundation creates interactive computer modules that teach students problem-solving techniques and communication skills, reinforcing universally held virtues such as respect and responsibility. The web site has a number of resources that include **classroom lesson plans**, **activities** and **broadcast messages** intended to encourage understanding and action. Excellent “thinking” resources.

<http://www.mindohfoundation.org/hurricanekatrina.htm>



Often, it is difficult for children, or anyone for that matter, to grasp terrible destruction such as the results of Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. It helps to understand the science behind what happened. To help teachers explain this natural disaster to children a **free video on hurricanes** is currently featured.

<http://www.brainpop.com/science/weatherandclimate/hurricanes/>



Explore the science of hurricanes and the challenges of protecting cities like New Orleans. Watch the **online video** of the **NOVA scienceNOW** segment on hurricanes. The video focuses on the devastating impact of a strong hurricane on New Orleans and scientists' efforts to predict the strength of hurricanes. It also explores the topographical factors that protect New Orleans while placing it at great risk from a hurricane, including levees built to keep water out, the city's location below sea level and the continuing loss of wetlands. NASA's new satellite technology—see a hurricane's internal structure.

http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/teachers/viewing/3204_02_nsn.html



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Herman the spokescrab teaches youngsters how to be prepared for disasters and prevent disaster damage. Students can also learn what causes disasters, play games, read stories and become a **Disaster Action Kid**. A story about Herman's search for a disaster-proof shell is great reading too! The Parents & Teachers page has activities, curriculum and safety info. for classroom or home.

<http://www.fema.gov/kids/hurr.htm>

Other Resources:

The **Eye of the Hurricane**, a lesson from **Marco Polo and National Geographic's** online **Xpeditions**, introduces students to the structure of a hurricane, particularly the eye.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/07/g35/trythishurricane.html>

Examine how technology saves lives from storms **CNN's EDUCATION with Student News**.

<http://www.cnn.com/2005/EDUCATION/08/30/activity.hurricane.technology/index.html>

"**How Stuff Works: Hurricanes**" describes how hurricanes form and move as well as the destruction and damage they can cause. <http://science.howstuffworks.com/hurricane.htm>

The **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration** (NOAA) offers **Hurricane Strike!**TM, an interactive course on hurricane science and safety for youngsters and their families.

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