

# Online Book Club

## The Horrendous Hurricane Mystery

### Bring It To Life!

1. Let's blog! First, create your own user name (like RedRooster). Be creative! Then, have each member write his or her user name and a question at the top of a piece of notebook paper. Pass your "blogs" around the group. Answer the question the person asked, and create a new question for the next person. Keep passing until your piece of paper has made its way all around the group. Then read your silly conversations out loud.
2. Be prepared! Imagine a storm is coming and your book club is stuck in the house! Have each member find an item for a hurricane survival kit. Be sure to collect bottled water, canned food, a can opener, a flashlight, and some batteries. You might even want to include some games to pass the time.
3. Map your own evacuation route! Find a map of your state. Decide as a group what would be the best way to escape if a hurricane was on the way. Trace the highways with a highlighter so you won't forget the way!
4. Let's get naming! Ask each member of the group to make up as many hurricane names as they can, using the first letter of their first name. The one with the most hurricane names wins!



# Online Information

## The Horrendous Hurricane Mystery

# Fascinating Facts

## Hurricane Trivia

1. A hurricane is most destructive during its first 12 hours onshore.
2. The hurricane is the world's biggest storm.
3. Hurricane Katrina cost \$75 billion in damages—the most expensive hurricane in U.S. history.
4. Ten minutes of one hurricane has as much energy as a nuclear bomb. That's one strong storm!
5. Every hurricane has an "eye" where the wind is perfectly calm and the sky can even be sunny!
6. The U.S. National Weather Service has been naming hurricanes since 1953.
7. The word hurricane comes from "Huracan," the god of big winds and evil spirits in the ancient Mayan culture.
8. If a hurricane is really big and destructive, its name is retired and never used again for any other hurricane.
9. A group of pilots called the Hurricane Hunters actually fly right into the eye of a hurricane so they can track how the storm is developing! Pilots say that it feels like "you're on a roller coaster going down, and then getting shot back up again," while they are in the eye wall.
10. Hurricanes always form and gain power over the water, but they die quickly when they reach land.



# Online Information

## The Horrendous Hurricane Mystery

### Fascinating Facts

### The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale

**Categories of Hurricanes:** The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale measures hurricanes by current intensity using a 1 to 5 scale.

- A **Category 1** hurricane has wind speeds of 74 to 95 miles per hour (mph). There is some damage to trees, shrubs and signs.
- A **Category 2** hurricane has wind speeds of 96 to 110 mph, and causes damage to windows, roofs and doors.
- A **Category 3** hurricane, which Hurricane Katrina was when it made landfall, has wind speeds of 111 to 130 mph, causing some damage to small homes and destroying mobile homes.
- A **Category 4** hurricane has wind speeds of 131 to 155 mph. There is major damage to roofs, windows and doors.
- A **Category 5** hurricane has wind speeds of 156 mph and higher. It causes extreme damage to buildings, including tearing off roofs.



# Online Quiz

## The Horrendous Hurricane Mystery

### Pop Quiz

1. What was one of the usernames the looters used on the "Categories" blog?
2. True or False? A hurricane does the worst damage on its west side.
3. What Category 5 hurricane hit Louisiana in 2005?
4. What is the difference between a hurricane and a typhoon?
5. True or False? Hurricanes lose power when they move over land.
6. What kind of radar do meteorologists use to track hurricanes?
7. Where was Mrs. Beckwith's secret hurricane shelter?
8. True or False? Water has to be at least 79 degrees Fahrenheit for a hurricane to form.



# *Hurricane* Safety Tips

1) Talk with your parents about where you should go if the storm is so bad that you have to leave your home.

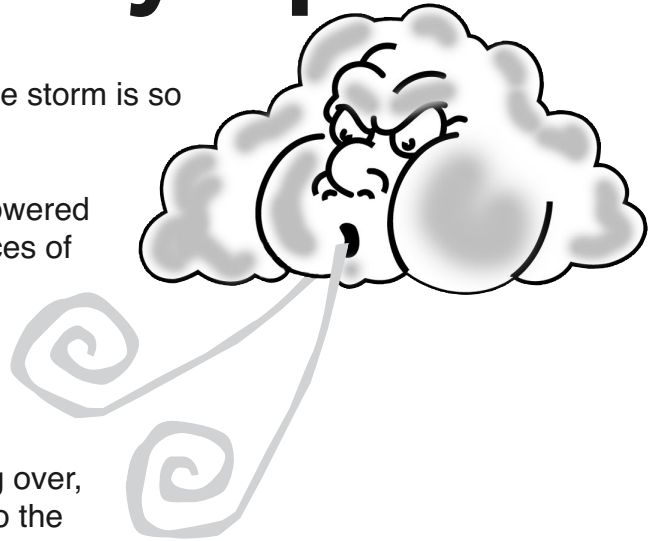
2) Watch the weather on TV or listen to it on a battery-powered radio. Listen carefully for evacuation information or notices of closed roads.

3) Stay away from windows!

4) If the hurricane seems like it's over, you might be experiencing the "eye" of the storm. If the eye is passing over, it's just a pause in the storm. Be sure to keep listening to the weather report to find out when the storm is actually over.

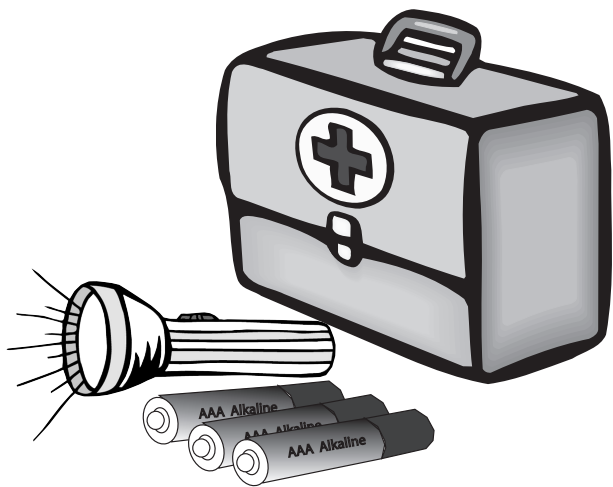
5) If the lights go out, be sure to use battery-powered flashlights instead of candles. Candles can lead to fires.

6) Be sure to know where your special Hurricane Safety Kit is and make sure that it's fully stocked with the essential safety items you need.



# *Hurricane* Safety Kit:

- Battery-powered radio
- Extra batteries
- Canned food and a can opener
- A first aid kit and any medicines you might need
- A few gallons of water (per person in your family)
- Battery-powered flashlight
- Sleeping bags
- Comfortable and functional shoes
- Rain gear (boots, hat, and coat)
- Rain gear (boots, hat, and coat)
- Car keys
- Maps and important documents in case of the need for evacuation



# Know your SAT Words!

Mystery Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## SAT Words



1. immerse
2. defer
3. tranquil
4. forsake
5. sedentary

Write a sensational sentence using all five SAT Words from this mystery.

---

---

---

---

---



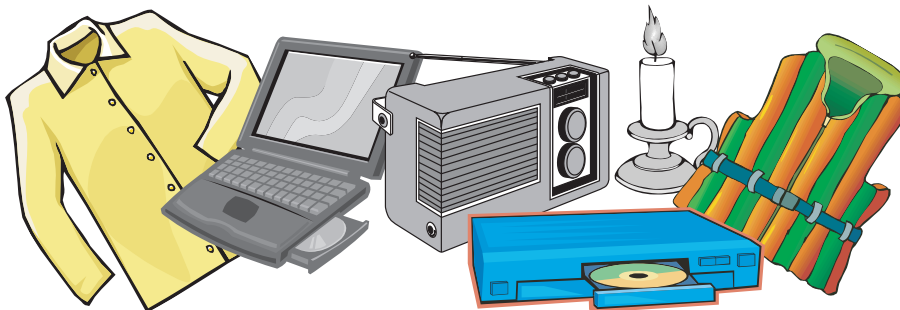
# THE HORRENDOUS HURRICANE



# SCAVENGER HUNT

Want to have some fun? Let's go on a scavenger hunt! See if you can find the items below. (Teachers: You have permission to reproduce this form for your students.)

1. \_\_\_ A drawing showing the shape of Louisiana
2. \_\_\_ The National Hurricane Center's website
3. \_\_\_ A collared shirt (to look like a professional hurricane intern!)
4. \_\_\_ A radio
5. \_\_\_ A candle (in case the lights go out!)
6. \_\_\_ A picture of the real "Unsinkable Molly Brown"
7. \_\_\_ A lifejacket (just in case it floods)
8. \_\_\_ A picture of a laptop computer
9. \_\_\_ A picture of a DVD player
10. \_\_\_ A pair of glasses (but don't drop them into the iced tea!)



# Online Book Club

## The Horrendous Hurricane Mystery

### Talk About It!

1. Who was your favorite character? Why?
2. What was your favorite part of the book? Why?
3. Do you like writing on blogs? Why or why not?
4. Do you think Mrs. Beckwith should have stayed at her house through the storm? What would you do if a bad storm was on its way to your house?
5. Have you ever been in a hurricane or a bad storm? Discuss how you felt and describe what the storm was like.
6. Some of the people who lost their homes in Hurricane Katrina had to live in FEMA trailers and didn't have much privacy. Discuss how you would feel if you had to live in a FEMA trailer for a month.
7. Artemis helped families in the book by installing bindings to make their houses sturdier. Discuss some things you could do to make your house safe from strong storms.
8. If you could redecorate one room in a FEMA trailer, what would it look like? What color would it be? Would there be flowers, polka dots, or army men?
9. David Logan explains to Nick and Curie that it's not looting if you take things that you need to survive, but it is wrong to steal things like TVs or DVD players. Discuss the difference between necessity and greed. Do you think David Logan should pay back the grocery store for the food he needed?
10. When Nick and Curie realize that something bad is going to happen to Mrs. Beckwith, they tell their father. What would you do if you thought someone was in danger? Who would you go to for advice? Do you think Nick and Curie did the right thing?





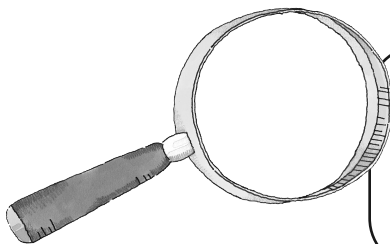
# THE HORRENDOUS HURRICANE



# Word Search

L	E	C	M	X	I	S	I	J	A	C	D	E	Y	K
L	V	K	A	S	P	D	L	P	G	T	H	U	K	L
E	A	E	A	E	C	Y	R	O	G	E	T	A	C	Z
D	C	A	B	A	D	I	X	I	E	N	F	I	U	U
I	U	T	N	G	V	I	E	A	O	R	A	W	C	B
L	A	T	D	I	T	R	U	N	G	X	O	D	H	L
S	T	R	E	D	R	O	O	S	T	E	R	U	J	O
G	I	R	N	G	B	T	M	P	L	I	R	O	P	G
L	O	D	X	X	W	I	A	L	O	R	S	F	Q	Z
H	N	V	I	N	B	Q	I	K	I	F	E	T	L	G
B	T	N	E	W	V	M	F	C	Q	M	G	Q	S	Z
X	Y	M	C	D	A	Y	A	P	A	S	M	N	K	T
D	N	W	M	C	B	N	Q	Z	S	Q	H	Z	C	T
M	D	S	Y	A	E	J	W	C	X	V	F	A	F	T
C	Q	W	Q	B	B	Y	R	S	I	A	G	T	Y	A

## Word Bank



REDROOSTER  
KATRINA  
SLIDELL  
CATEGORY

SCIENTISTS  
HURRICANE  
CAMILLE  
EVACUATION

BLOG  
FEMA  
DIXIE  
ATTIC