

Answer Keys: “Hurricanes Scavenger Hunt” and “Windy Weather” worksheet

1. What is a hurricane? (huge storms of high-speed spiraling winds)
2. Wind speeds in a hurricane can be (74 mph up to 200 mph).
3. Hurricanes are grouped into (5) categories, with Category 3 measuring wind speeds from (111 mph - 130 mph). (Saffir-Simpson Scale)
4. In which ocean are hurricanes located? (Atlantic Ocean)
5. What are similar storms called in the Pacific Ocean? (typhoons or cyclones)
6. Which part of a hurricane is calm? (the eye)
7. Name 3 things that happen when hurricanes hit land. (strong winds, rain, destruction, hurricane dies down, etc. . .)
8. List 3 historical hurricanes along the east coast of the United States. Include the name, date, and location of destruction. (Student answers may vary. As one source, use lesson link, Hurricane History.)
9. How are hurricanes named? (Alphabetically alternating girl and boy names)
10. Draw a diagram of how a satellite would see a hurricane. (Student drawings may vary, but should generally show a spiral effect with an “eye” formed in the center)
11. Elements needed for hurricane formation. (high humidity, warm ocean water surface temperatures, spiraling wind patterns, or similar answers)
12. The average hurricane is about 375 miles (600km) across. That’s the distance from New York City to Norfolk, Virginia. How wide can a hurricane measure? (Up to 1000 miles)
13. Is the eye of a hurricane a center of high or low pressure? (Low pressure)
14. What force number on the Beaufort Scale is labeled as a hurricane? (12)
15. What is the difference between a watch and a warning? (A watch means conditions could cause a hurricane, where as a warning means a hurricane has been identified and is heading your way.)
16. List 3 examples of damage a hurricane could cause. (Answers may vary. Examples might include wind damage, flooding, heavy rains, storm surges, etc.)
17. Explain how a meteorologist tracks a hurricane. (They use weather satellites, computers, and radar. Hurricane eye positions are given by latitude and longitude. They look at and record the time, date, eye position, direction of movement, and wind speed.)
18. What should someone do to prepare for a hurricane? (Answers vary, but could include: evacuate, board up windows, secure all loose items around outside of house, contact out- of-state friends, prepare an emergency kit with items such as a radio and batteries, bottled water, clothes, non-perishable food, First aid kit, etc.)

Answer to Windy Weather

Hurricanes are storms with winds ranging from 74 mph up to 200 mph.