



3.7 SEVERE WEATHER EVENTS

OBJECTIVES

The students

- Report on local severe weather events.
- Review and discuss locally appropriate safety precautions and preparations for severe weather events.
- Connect the study of severe weather to their Pacific Island environment.

CLIMATE EDUCATION FRAMEWORK

- 3-5Climate.A.5 Extreme weather events (for example, tropical storms, typhoons, hurricanes, and long droughts) happen more in some places than in other places, and more in some times of the year than other times of the year.

BACKGROUND

This activity addresses the idea of severe weather events. It is suggested that the teacher keep the students focused on those sorts of events that occur in the Pacific Islands such as typhoons or hurricanes, severe droughts and tropical storms. Appropriate safety precautions and preparations are generally described by local authorities. These should be reviewed by the teacher and discussed with the students.

Students will often want to include tsunamis as severe weather when in fact these are the results of geological events, often earthquakes or submarine landslides. However, increased wave action and high surf often result from tropical storms.

STUDENT ROLE

Meteorologist

MATERIALS

poster making supplies

chart paper and markers

Working Dictionary

resources on severe weather and/or Internet access

SP 3.7 Severe Weather

PRODUCTS

Concept maps about severe weather
Posters about severe weather events
Working definition of severe weather

PROCEDURES

- 1. Have the students work in small groups to make concept maps about kinds of severe weather.**
Have them
 - Include different kinds of severe weather, effects of these events, and any other ideas they may suggest including safety issues and precautions.
✓See the Background if tsunamis are suggested. Ask students what causes them. Then ask how this is related to weather.
 - Identify the kinds of severe weather experienced locally.
 - Identify some kinds of severe weather experienced in other places.
✓Help them to identify where such events occur.
 - Share their group concept maps and then revise and add to them as they choose.
 - 2. Have the students work in groups or individually to make posters about kinds of severe weather that occur locally. Use SP 3.7 Severe Weather to help students with their research efforts before creating their posters.**
Have them include
 - A description of the event.
 - Factual information they find in books, on the Internet, or from other resources, including local experts.
 - Drawings or other types of illustrations.
 - Potential effects of the particular severe weather event.
 - Locally appropriate safety and preparation information.
 - 3. Have the students share their posters and post them in the Weather Center or on a bulletin board.**
 - 4. Have the students write a Working Definition for severe weather. Put it in the Working Dictionary.**
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EXTENSION

- Have students create posters about severe weather events found in other places.



**SEVERE
WEATHER
SP 3.7**

Name: _____

Date: _____

Kind of severe weather:

Describe the event:

Describe some possible effects from this weather:

Interesting facts:

Safety and preparation information:

Tell where you got your information from: