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Extreme Weather: Hurricane!

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Hurricane Basics

Imagine that you are at the **ocean** with your family. It's a warm summer day. The weather is fair. You are having a good time.

The weather seems nice, but look out for those clouds!





Suddenly, the wind starts to blow. The waves seem higher. The air becomes cooler. You feel a few raindrops.

The **storm** will probably pass. Still, be careful! The storm could grow more serious. It could become a **hurricane**!



Did You Know?

The word "hurricane" comes from a word from the Caribbean. "Hurakan" was also the Mayan god of storms.

Hurricanes are **tropical** storms. They usually form over oceans. Warm air rises from the water's surface. As the air rises, it cools. The air moves faster. The wind grows stronger.

As hurricanes gain strength, they form an eye. The eye is the center of the storm. It is a peaceful place. The winds there move slowly.

Outside of the eye, the winds move much faster. Their speed can reach 322 **kilometers** per hour. That is faster than most cars or trains!





Hurricanes usually happen during the summer. The Atlantic Ocean hurricane season lasts from June 1 through November 30. The Pacific Ocean hurricane season is a little longer. It lasts from May 15 through November 30.

A single hurricane can last for a week. That's a long life for a storm!

Hurricane Effects

Hurricanes have different names around the world. In East Asia, they are often called typhoons. In other places, they are called cyclones.

No matter what we call them, these storms are powerful! They can have **terrible** results when they go over land.

Hurricanes have the power to flood entire cities.

