When Storms Strike

Trace how a hurricane affects people and how communities respond.

7.C.4.1 "Analyze how humans adapt to their environment, including the impact of climate and weather patterns and natural disasters on human populations, resulting in displacement, scarcity of consumer goods, and loss of life."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB PART 1: READ AND MARK. Underline two ways the storm affected people's lives, circle two actions people can take, and draw an arrow from each circled action to the problem it helps address.

After Hurricane Maria

1. Each year, Puerto Rico faces a hurricane season because it lies near warm Atlantic waters. The yearly storm season is part of the island's climate, while a warning describes an approaching storm's weather. In September 2017, Hurricane Maria struck the island with fierce winds and heavy rain. Floodwater covered some roads, and wind damaged buildings and power lines. A broken power line can stop water pumps from working, even where the storm did not flood a home. Storm damage therefore reached far beyond the places where the wind first hit.

2. After Maria, damaged roads and ports made it harder to deliver food, fuel, and medicine. Power outages also kept many stores from opening or keeping food cold. When deliveries slowed and stored food spoiled, families had fewer goods to buy. Some people left damaged homes for shelters or moved to other parts of Puerto Rico or the mainland United States. Others faced dangerous delays in medical care when roads were blocked or electricity was unavailable. The storm and its effects were linked to thousands of deaths.

3. People can reduce some risks, but no plan makes a hurricane harmless. Before a storm, officials can send warnings, and families can move to shelters on higher ground. Communities can store drinking water, food, and medicine in safe places so damaged roads do not cut off every supply. Afterward, workers can clear routes and restore power, helping stores and clinics reopen. These choices respond to different threats: shelters help protect lives during flooding, while stored supplies help people get through days when deliveries cannot arrive.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. PART 2: QUESTIONS. How is Puerto Rico's hurricane season different from the weather described in a storm warning?

2. How did damage from Maria make goods harder for families to buy?

3. How could damage from the storm put someone's life at risk even after the winds stopped?

4. Why would moving to higher ground and storing supplies help people in different ways?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

PART 3: YOUR TURN. A coastal town expects a hurricane. Its only road to the market crosses a low bridge, and a school stands on higher ground. In three sentences, explain one likely effect on access to goods and propose two actions from the passage that address different risks, stating how each helps.

ANSWER KEY

When Storms Strike

GRADE 7 · 7.C.4.1

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

PART 1: READ AND MARK. Underline two ways the storm affected people's lives, circle two actions people can take, and draw an arrow from each circled action to the problem it helps address. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	PART 2: QUESTIONS. How is Puerto Rico's hurricane season different from the weather described in a storm warning?	**The hurricane season is a yearly climate pattern. A warning describes the weather of a particular approaching storm.**
2	How did damage from Maria make goods harder for families to buy?	**Damaged roads and ports slowed deliveries. Power outages closed stores or caused stored food to spoil, leaving fewer goods to buy.**
3	How could damage from the storm put someone's life at risk even after the winds stopped?	**Blocked roads or lost electricity could delay medical care.**
4	Why would moving to higher ground and storing supplies help people in different ways?	**Moving to higher ground helps protect people from flooding. Stored supplies provide food, water, or medicine when damaged roads stop deliveries.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

If the bridge floods, deliveries may not reach the market, leaving fewer goods to buy. Families could move to the school on higher ground to stay safer during flooding. The town could store food, water, and medicine at the school so people have supplies while deliveries are delayed.

Accept other passage-supported links between storm damage and shortages, displacement, or danger to life. In the open task, look for one likely effect on goods and two distinct actions with explanations of how they help.