



Natural Disasters

Estimating

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Natural Disasters

Everyone fears **natural disasters**. Luckily, some natural disasters can be **predicted**. When people are ready for them, lives can be saved.

Hurricanes

Hurricanes are strong **tropical** storms. They form over oceans. They **rotate** in a counterclockwise direction.

Hurricane Categories

The strength of a hurricane is rated on a category scale of 1–5.

Category	Wind Speed (miles per hour)	Wind Speed (kilometers per hour)
1	74–95	119–153
2	96–110	154–177
3	111–130	178–209
4	131–155	210–249
5	> 155	> 249

Hurricane Katrina

Hurricane Katrina was one of the worst natural disasters to ever hit the United States. Katrina began as very bad weather on August 23, 2005. It then turned into a tropical storm. Then, on August 29, Hurricane Katrina arrived in New Orleans as a Category 3 hurricane.

Hurricane Katrina in
the Gulf of Mexico

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