

# FACTS ABOUT HURRICANES



Often words are used to describe the type of hurricanes and associated weather conditions. Below is a glossary that can help to explain these words to children.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Hurricanes are called by many names depending on where they happen in the world. Tropical Cyclone is the catch all name used by scientists to describe hurricanes, cyclones, and typhoons.

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN WHEN THERE IS A TROPICAL STORM WATCH OR A HURRICANE WATCH?

- A storm watch happens when changes in wind and temperature conditions over the water could become a tropical storm or hurricane. Scientists are watching to see what, how and if the storm changes.

## WHAT IS A TROPICAL STORM WARNING OR HURRICANE WARNING?

- A tropical storm or hurricane warning happens when the winds reach a specific speed and last for a certain amount of time. Follow directions for how to respond to stay safe.

## WHAT IS THE EYE OF THE STORM?

- The eye of the storm is a part of the hurricane where the air is calm. It is, however, surrounded by fiercely strong winds and storm conditions.

## WHAT IS A STORM SURGE?

- A storm surge happens over water when the wind is so strong that water begins to pile up pushing the water much higher than it should be.

## WEATHER WORDS

- **Tropical Disturbance:** A tropical disturbance is a cluster of thunderstorms formed by the movement of the wind and the rising air temperature.
- **Tropical Depression:** A tropical depression is when the air pressure in the clouds changes and creates more thunderstorms. The wind in the thunderstorms moves very quickly in a circular motion.
- **Tropical Storm:** A tropical storm starts over the water and stays fairly warm. Unlike a hurricane, a tropical storm usually does not have the characteristic eye of the storm.
- **Categories:** There are 5 categories. The categories are based on wind speed and can help determine ways to stay safe and protect oneself.



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## REFERENCES:

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