

Kamy Whatley	7 th Grade Science	11/10 – 11/17
Unit Title: Unit 05 Catastrophic Events and the Ecosystem		
TEKS: 7.8A Predict and describe how the different types of catastrophic events impact ecosystems such as floods, hurricanes, or tornadoes.		
<p>Guiding Questions Related to Key Understandings: Catastrophic events are natural occurrences that generally have a negative effect on people and/or the environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Is there any time a catastrophic event could have a beneficial effect of the environment? — How would the ability to predict a catastrophic event ahead of time be beneficial to people? 		
<p>Performance Indicators: Make a brochure in Pages to describe how the different types of catastrophic events impact ecosystems. Students will provide an illustration of each event and describe the impact the event could have on the ecosystem.</p>		
<p>Lesson Activity 1: 11/10 Engage</p> <p>We will look at a set of 8 pictures that depict different natural disasters or catastrophic events. Students will participate in a discussion of catastrophic events.</p> <p>Student Responsibility, 11/10: Participate in class discussion.</p>		
<p>Lesson Activity 2: 11/10 – 11/11 Explore</p> <p>Students will begin researching each catastrophic event we discussed. (wildfire, drought, hurricane, volcano, tornado, tsunami, earthquake, flood) Students will use the Catastrophic Event Research Cards.</p> <p>Student Responsibility, 11/10-11/11 Students will receive 8 catastrophic event research cards.</p>		
<p>Lesson Activity 3: 11/14 Explain & Elaborate</p> <p>Students will review information on Catastrophic Event cards. Students will paste research cards into their composition books. We will discuss cause and effect relationships as they are related to each event. Both positive and negative effects will be discussed.</p> <p>Student Responsibility, 11/14: Students will participate in discussion activities and paste cards into composition books.</p>		

Lesson Activity 4: 11/15 Elaborate

Students will use National Geographic Forces of Nature to simulate and read more about the effects that hurricanes, volcano's, tornados, and earthquakes have on the environment. A simulator is available for each disaster, so students determine what causes the disaster.

<http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/natural-disasters/forces-of-nature.html?section=v>

Student Responsibility, 11/15: Students will navigate through the simulation.

Lesson Activity 5: 11/16-17 Evaluate

Students will complete the Performance Indicator to show understanding of the concepts.

Make a brochure in Pages to describe how the different types of catastrophic events impact ecosystems. Students will provide an illustration of each event and describe the impact the event could have on the ecosystem. Students will be provided with a rubric to follow.

Student Responsibility, 11/16-17: Students will complete the Performance Indicator.