

Hurricane Katrina



Names: Tatiana Kovacs
Madeline Harvey
Period: 2

Before the Storm:



- Considered the “Tropical Depression”
- Formed over the Bahamas on August 23, 2005
- Meteorologists were able to warn people in the Gulf States that there is a major storm coming their way.
- August 28, evacuations were underway across the region.

DID YOU KNOW.....

During the past century, hurricanes have flooded New Orleans six times: in 1915, 1940, 1947, 1965, 1969 and 2005.



New Orleans:

- New Orleans were particularly at risk b/c though about ½ of the city lies above sea level, its average elevations is about 6ft below sea level.. completely surrounded by water.
- Over the course of the 20th century, the Army Corps of Engineers had built a system of levees and seawalls to keep the city from flooding.
 - However, officials worried that the levees would not be able to withstand this massive storm.. and people that lived there were at high risks of drowning and being flooded out.

[Levee- embankment designed to prevent the flooding of a river.]

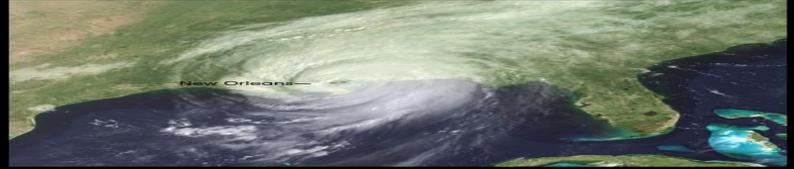


The Preparation for the hurricane:

- New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin issued the city's first-ever mandatory evacuation order.
- He declared that the Superdome {a stadium located on relatively high ground near downtown} would serve as a shelter for the people who were not able to leave.
- By nightfall, almost 80 percent of the city's population had evacuated.
- 10,000 had sought shelter in the Superdome
- Tens of thousands of others chose to wait out the storm at home.



Facts:



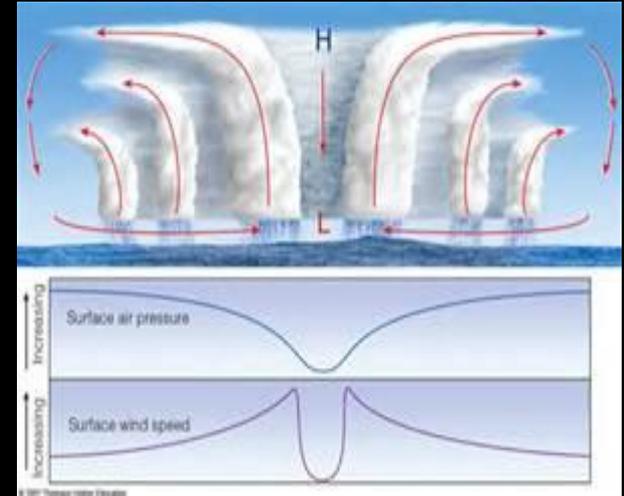
- Deadliest hurricanes ever to hit the United States.
- Estimated 1,836 people died in the hurricane and the flooding that followed in late August 2005
- Millions of others were left homeless along the Gulf Coast and in New Orleans, which experienced the highest death toll.
- It ranks sixth overall in strength of recorded Atlantic hurricanes
- Maximum winds stretched 25 to 30 miles & its extremely wide swath of hurricane force winds extended at least 75 miles to the east from the center.

How it formed:

Hurricanes use convection, the movement of hot and cold air, to create monstrous storms

STEPS:

- 1) Using hot humid air that rises to the top of the storm
- 2) The air moves closer to the top, it also cools and condenses
- 3) When the water vapor condenses, it generates rain as well as heat.
- 4) This cooling makes the air fall back down to towards the bottom of the storm, where it warms and the cycle starts again
- 5) Rising warm air creates pressure at the top of the hurricane, as the now-cooled air falls down, air from near the ocean's surface quickly fills the space, creating a low-pressure zone close to the ocean's surface. The cycle is in motion.



Environmental Effects:



- Industrial wastes, oil spills, household sewage, toxic chemicals & other hazardous pollutants had swept to the directly hit areas as well as neighboring regions.
- Contaminated floodwater that overflowed the residential areas; long-term health effects on humans, animals & other inhabitants of the area.
- Pollution of groundwater reserves. MAJOR water source for drinking purposes.



AP



<http://www.bing.com/videos/search?>

[q=interviews+of+hurricane+katrina&form=HDRSC3&first=1#view=detail&mid=7BC2C965D39817B5BF6B7BC2C965D39817B5BF6B](http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=interviews+of+hurricane+katrina&form=HDRSC3&first=1#view=detail&mid=7BC2C965D39817B5BF6B7BC2C965D39817B5BF6B)

Sources

- 1) <http://www.history.com/topics/hurricane-katrina>
- 2) <http://www.livescience.com/22522-hurricane-katrina-facts.html>
- 3) <http://hurricanekatrina.web.unc.edu/how-hurricanes-are-formed/>
- 4) <http://www.buzzle.com/articles/effects-of-hurricane-katrina.html>
- 5) http://www.tropicalweather.net/how_do_hurricanes_form.htm

