



## Teacher's Notes: Hurricane Irma

**General Tips:** Have students locate the word 'hurricane' in the article and highlight the word (frequently used word). When appropriate have students write the word a few times on a sheet of paper and/or draw a picture of a hurricane.

**Page 1:** What is a storm? Did you know that hurricanes are given names? (Katrina, Harvey, Andrew, Wilma, Ivan, Charlie)

The names of the hurricane follow the alphabet. Irma starts with an "I". What letter comes after "I". Yes, "J" what are some names that start with "J" that we could name the next hurricane?

**Page 2:** Hurricane Irma started in the Atlantic Ocean. Hurricanes always start in the ocean.

**Page 3:** Hurricane Irma started when the Atlantic Ocean was warm. The ocean has to be warm for a hurricane to start. The air has to be cold for a hurricane to start. Hurricanes only happen in places where it's warm. Can there be a hurricane in Alaska? NO, it's cold there. Warm tropical places that have beautiful beaches. That is where a hurricane might go.

**Page 4:** Hurricanes are a special kind of storm. The ocean needs to be warm and the air cold and the wind blows in a circle.

**Page 5:** The eye of the hurricane is right in the middle of the wind circle and it is not as strong of a wind. It looks like an eye, doesn't it?

**Page 6:** Show students on the map where the Atlantic Ocean is and the islands and FL that were hit by the hurricane. Point out the state where the students live so that they have perspective and can see where they live compared to where the storm was. Are they near it or far away?

**Page 7:** Discuss what you see in the picture. Rain, palm trees blowing, strong wind, water crashing against a house, a fireman, dark skies. What is damage?

What are some things that we do when it rains? (umbrella, close windows, go inside, etc.)

What might get damaged in this storm?

**Page 8:** What do you see? Do you see palm trees blowing in the wind? What might happen to those trees? Do you see electric lines? What happens when a tree falls on an electrical line? What happens if the electrical lines get knocked over? Have you ever seen wind blow things around?

**Page 9:** Look at this house, It looks like the bottom part fell down. Look at the windows. They are broken. What do you think happened to this house?

**Page 10:** The hurricane blows really hard. Sometimes trees fall down. What happens when a tree falls on a car? What damage has been done? What needs to be replaced? What do you think the people will have to do? What happens when things get wet? What would get wet if there was a flood in your house?

**Page 11:** It rains a lot during a hurricane. The wind blows water from the ocean around. It causes floods. A flood is when water is all over the place. Have you ever had a flood in your house? Do you think those cars will have water inside them? What will they do? This street is flooded.

**Page 12:** When the hurricane was over there were a lot of electrical wires broken. There were a lot of people who did not have electricity in their homes. The people from the electric company had to work on the electric lines to get electricity back in people's homes. While people waited for electricity, many of them had to stay in a hotel. Schools were closed for a while. What doesn't work if you don't have electricity? (Lights, air conditioning, heating, flushing toilets)

**Page 13:** There were a lot of things that were moved by the wind and the flood. Junk is laying around. People are helping to clean it up so that the mess from the hurricane is cleaned up. People are moving trees that fell and fixing houses, roofs, etc. What do you see in this picture? Why do people need help after a hurricane?