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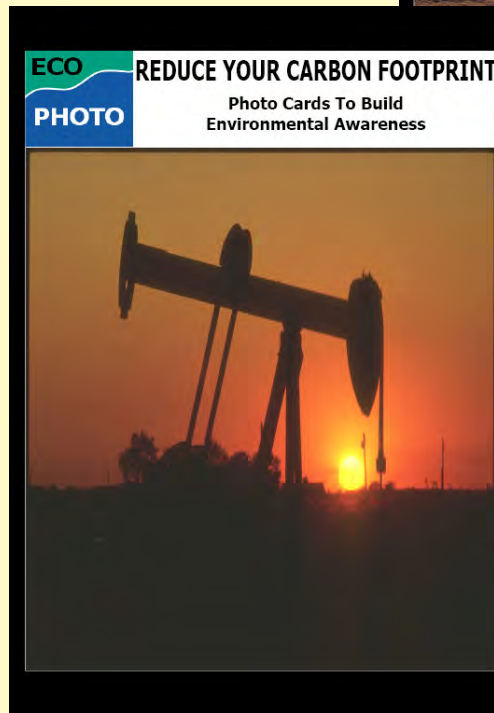
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GLOBAL WARMING

The Weather Is Getting Stormier

Background Information

- Global warming gives more energy in the atmosphere.
- Rain and winds become more intense with more energy to drive them.
- Storms are destructive and affect every area of the world. The damage disrupts, kills and costs large amounts of money to put right and to try and prevent.

One of the stormiest weather types in the world is the Hurricane (also called a Typhoon or Cyclone). In recent years, the number of these massive storms and how strong and destructive they are has increased. This is because of both air and sea temperatures rising.

The photograph shows the city of New Orleans after being hit by Hurricane Katrina

Look At The Photograph

1. Describe what you can see that is clearly caused by the storm.
2. Say how the damage could be repaired or put back to normal.
3. What do you think has happened to the sailors from the ships?
4. Many roads were flooded or blocked. How do you think the rescuers got to the people trapped in the floods?
5. If the area where you live was flooded from time to time, would you go back to your home after each flood or think of moving away?

Give your reasons.

Linked Activities

1. Each time there is a major hurricane or bad weather event in the world, mark it with a label on the correct part of the map. Do this for a year. What patterns do you notice?
2. Hurricanes are named alphabetically. Research how many hurricanes there were in the last 5 years in either the Atlantic or the Pacific ocean. List their names.
3. Investigate a recent major flood or storm in your own country. Was it worse than normal?
4. People often get caught in storms. What type of protective clothing is available to help them survive different types of storms?

More Information

Scientists have looked at potential correlations between ocean temperatures and tropical cyclone trends worldwide over the past several decades. A 2005 study published in the journal Nature examined the duration and maximum wind speeds of each tropical cyclone that formed over the last 30 years and found that their destructive power has increased around 70 percent in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

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Full notes, ideas and cross-curricular activities for each unit.

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