53

Disasters and what we should do: floods

Let's read

Disasters

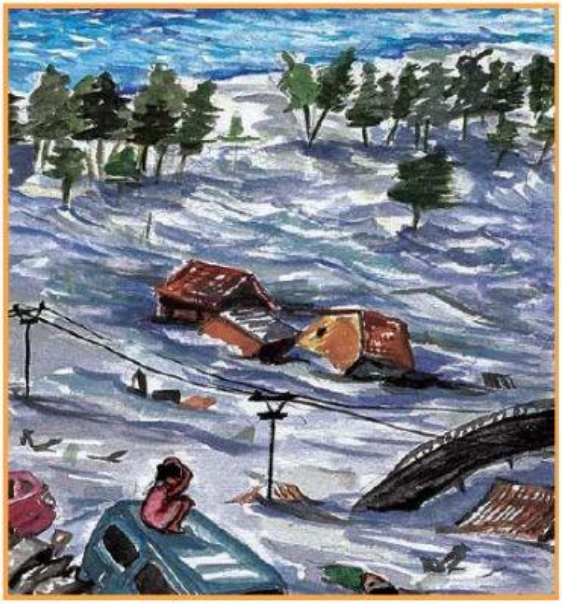
A disaster is an event that happens suddenly and that has serious results for people and nature. A disaster can cause many deaths and a lot of damage.

Many disasters are caused by natural things like wind and rain. An example is a flood after very heavy rains.

Humans can also cause disasters. For example, leaving a candle to burn all night can cause a fire.







Let's talk

Look at these pictures and talk to your friend about them.

Talk about what you see in each picture. Say what kind of disaster each picture shows.

Write down your thoughts.

Your teacher will make a list of everyone's answers on the board.

Add answers that are different from yours to your list.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Date:



Let's read Read the following newspaper article about a flood disaster. First read it on your own. Then sit with your friend and read it aloud. Take turns. You read a paragraph, then your friend reads a paragraph.

Flash flood causes disaster

Schmidtsburg Saturday 14 January 2011

Twelve people died and forty-five were rescued from trees and rooftops in this Northern Cape town.

The disaster happened after very heavy rains on Friday. It rained much more than people had expected.

It was the worst rainstorm in the town since 1985. Two people died when they tried to cross a bridge and their cars were swept away.

Emergency staff from the police, the fire brigade and the army rescued people. Police are still finding out if all the victims have been found. Many people in the town have lost everything in their homes. Houses in low-lying areas too close to the river had the worst damage.

Some of the victims did not listen to warnings by the police.



Many people have no food and clothes. They are now staying in church halls or with friends and relatives.

It will take six months to repair or rebuild everything. The mayor asked everyone to stand together.



Let's write Read the newspaper article again. Then answer these questions.

In which province did the flood disaster happen?

When did the rain start?

Does it often rain much in the town?

Why are there many people who have no food?

LIVEWORKSHEETS