

A Tale of Two Storms

Professor Stormwatcher and his dog, Cyclone, love chasing storms! The professor wrote an article about tornadoes and hurricanes, two of his favorite storms. Read his article. Then complete the outline.



Terrific Twisters and Happening Hurricanes

Both tornadoes and hurricanes are spiraling windstorms called cyclones. Tornadoes are funnel-shaped clouds of air that often develop during thunderstorms in spring or early summer. A tornado's winds can reach speeds over 300 miles per hour. Most tornadoes are under 1,600 feet wide, while others are up to a mile wide. These storms usually last for only a few minutes, but they can do a lot of damage. The tornado's center is like a vacuum. It can pick up people, animals, and objects and hurl them through the air.

A hurricane is a large, spinning storm. Hurricanes develop in warm ocean water from summer to early fall. Hurricane winds can blow from 74 to more than 156 miles per hour. These storms can be hundreds of miles wide and can last for days or weeks. A hurricane has a calm eye at its center. Strong winds and heavy rains surround the eye. This wind and rain can harm people, animals, and objects.

Tornadoes and Hurricanes

I. How tornadoes and hurricanes are alike

- A. _____
- B. _____

II. How tornadoes and hurricanes are different

A. They develop differently.

1. A tornado _____
2. A hurricane _____

B. They are different sizes.

1. A tornado _____
2. A hurricane can be hundreds of miles wide.

C. _____

1. A tornado is a funnel-shaped cloud with a center that is like a giant vacuum.
2. A hurricane _____

D. They last different lengths of time.

1. A tornado _____
2. A hurricane _____

E. They have different damaging elements.

1. A tornado _____
2. A hurricane _____