



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## HURRICANES

Have you ever been in a hurricane? Hurricanes are serious weather storms. They can do a lot of damage. But what is a hurricane? Another name for a hurricane is a tropical cyclone. A hurricane consists of thunderstorms, torrential rains, and waves with winds up to 75 mph or higher. A hurricane is a tropical storm that starts out in the ocean and gathers speed and strength as it travels.

When the winds inside these storms reach 39 mph, they are given names. An international committee developed the list of names. Hurricanes alternate back and forth between male and female names. Giving the hurricanes names makes it easier for meteorologists to identify and track certain storms. This makes it easier to announce hurricane warnings, as well.

The best place to be during a hurricane is indoors and away from windows and doors. If the hurricane is very bad, you will probably be asked to evacuate and move to safer ground. It's important to keep a kit ready that contains fresh water, non-perishable food, first aid kit, flashlight, rain gear, and other items that would be useful if you had to leave your home for a few days.

### STORY QUESTIONS

1. How fast does a tropical storm need to be moving in order to receive a name?
  - a. 25 mph
  - b. over 39 mph
  - c. 100 mph
  - d. over 76 mph
2. Where would you find the answer to the previous question?
  - a. second paragraph
  - b. third paragraph
  - c. in the title
  - d. none of the above
3. What is the definition of the word *non-perishable* as used in the passage?
  - a. long-lasting
  - b. freeze-dried
  - c. emergency
  - d. fresh