

Natural Disaster / Hazard Report

Each student will be assigned, by random card selection, a natural disaster / hazard topic. The topics will include: tornadoes, hurricanes, blizzards, ice storms, hail storms, lightning, heat waves, floods, droughts, wildfires, ice level rise, climate change, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, mass movement, avalanches, and asteroid impact. Students may not change their topic from the randomly selected assignment. Students will work individually; this is not a group or team project.

The report should address the following points about the topic:

- Define the disaster or hazard;
- Where can the hazard / disaster occur?
- What are the causes of the hazard / disaster?
- What are the effects of the hazard / disaster?
- How common an occurrence is this hazard / disaster?
- How many deaths or injuries does this hazard / disaster cause each year?
- How much property damage does this hazard / disaster cause each year?
- Does this hazard / disaster occur seasonally or year-round? When?
- Are there ways to prevent or minimize the effects of this hazard / disaster?

The report should include three graphics such as diagrams, photographs or maps. The text of the report cannot be plagiarized—it must be in the student's own words. Plagiarism is creating and will result in a grade of zero. Ideally, the report should be typed, but can be hand written if necessary.

Students will have one day (Tuesday, February 19) to work in class with books from the library, and two days (Wednesday and Thursday, February 20 & 21) to work in the computer lab with both books and on-line sources. The report is due at the beginning of class on Friday, February 22. Late work will be accepted for two additional days (February 25 & 26), with 10 points off each late day. After February 26, no reports will be accepted unless excused by prior absence—one day extension per day of absence. This is a summative grade, with the same weight as a test! The grade will be based on the accuracy and completeness of the report, neatness, organization, graphics and correct grammar and spelling.