C:\Documents and Settings\Ljlab\Local Settings\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\OHP9VNH1\MC900023581[1].wmf**Lesson Summary:** The purpose of this lesson is for students to understand four different extreme forces of nature and their effects on the environment. In an interactive PowerPoint presentation, students will use their knowledge of these forces of nature to answer quiz question to the best of their ability. The students will then get to listen and learn the answers as the lesson moves forward. Optional activities are provided as lesson extensions.

**Subject:** Science

**Grade Level:** 7th

[Download all Associated Files for this lesson from our Website](http://peer.tamu.edu/DLC/NSF_Resources.asp?ID=1391&type=browse&num=10&terms=&content=allcontent&subject=allsubjects&grade=allgrades&query=query&hl=no&count=537&number=6&view=yes)

**Materials:**

* Attached quizzes and PowerPoint presentation

**Activity Introduction/Preparation:** The first slide of the PowerPoint presentation has a link to an online video covering the forces of nature and their effect on the environment. As you progress through the presentation there are additional video links at each natural disaster type. If you chose not to use a video, introduce the topic to students by explaining the point of the lesson.

**Activity Plan:**

* The students can be put into teams or work individually
* Give the students the 4 attached quizzes to attempt before the lesson begins
* Proceed through the PowerPoint lesson and allow the students to grade their quizzes in a different color. Answers to the quizzes will be in the PowerPoint presentation.
* The students will be able to interact with the lesson and discover how much they really knew about forces of nature and their effect on the environment

**Assessment:** During the PowerPoint presentation, have the students check their quiz answers when the answer slides appear. Let the students know that they can raise their hand to ask about the natural disasters or add observations if they have any.

**Optional Lesson Extension**: (If there is time remaining)

* Randomly assign each student one of the four natural disasters in this lesson. The groups are: Hurricane, Flood, Tornado, and Volcano.
* Those students will group together for this activity.
* Explain that “The weather is looking pretty bad lately around the school. The school might accidentally get destroyed (and class canceled forever) if a natural disaster were to occur.”
* Read off the clues in a random order listed in the Lesson Extension document or ask trivia questions (facts from the PowerPoint/videos/quizzes) to the entire class.
* The first group to correctly identify the natural disaster to which the clue or question is referring will advance one space (as if on a board game) towards destroying the school.
* The first team to answer 10 questions correctly will be the winning natural disaster and destroy the school!

**References:**

* <http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/kids/forces-of-nature-kids/>
* <http://www.theweatherchannelkids.com/>
* Others listed with Quizzes

**TEKS:** Science-

7.8 (A) - Predict and describe how different types of catastrophic events impact ecosystems such as floods, hurricanes, or tornadoes

**Authors:**   
Undergraduate Fellow: Kristen Bowen  
Graduate Fellow: Jennifer Graham

Please email us your comments on this lesson:   
E-mail to [ljohnson@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:ljohnson@cvm.tamu.edu)  
Please include the title of the lesson, whether you are a teacher, resident scientist or college faculty and what grade you used it for.