read

Natural Hazards

Planning for Tropical Storms

quiz

The Big Picture

natural hazards — *tectonic hazards*

Natural Hazards

*weather hazards** — *climate change*

Key Terms

Monitoring – Recording physical changes, such as earthquake tremors.

Planning – Actions taken to enable communities to respond to hazards.

Prediction- Attempts to forecast when and where a hazard will strike.

Protection – Actions taken to reduce a hazard impact before it strikes.

Monitoring

Tropical Storms

- Satellite and radar technology are used to track the development and approach of a tropical storm.
- The Global Precipitation Measurement satellite monitors high-altitude rainclouds every three hours, which indicate whether a tropical storm will intensify within 24 hours.
- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) monitors weather patterns across the Atlantic using manned and unmanned aircraft.

Prediction

Tropical Storms

- Supercomputers give five days' warning and predict the location within 400 kilometres.
- Track forecast cones plot the tropical storm's predicted path. Typically, 70 per cent occur within the code.
- Early warnings are issued by national hurricane centres around the world.

Protection

Tropical Storms

- Buildings can be reinforced to protect them from strong winds.
- Coastal flood defences can be constructed to protect areas from storm surges.
- No build zones can be constructed in in low-lying areas.

Planning

Tropical Storms

- People who live in areas prone to tropical storms can make plans and prepare what they require to deal with the effects of a tropical storm. They can prepare disaster supply kits, ensure vehicles are fully fuelled, have a clear evacuation plan and know where evacuation centres are located.