

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **Disaster Assistance Project**

Adapted from “CyberGuide for *Night of the Twisters*”

<http://www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us/score/twist/nighttg.html>

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### **Introduction**

In this activity you will learn about agencies that provide disaster assistance. You will work as a member of a disaster team and coordinate your efforts with other teams in your classroom to provide assistance to a community experiencing a disaster.

### **The Task**

With your teacher's help, your class will form five disaster teams. Each team will then choose one of the agency links below to learn how the agency supports communities experiencing a natural disaster.

- Your team will respond to the "situation" described below.
- Prepare a plan for how your team will give assistance to this community.
- Meet with the other teams to coordinate aid, so you are not duplicating services and so your resources are used as well as they can be to help the people in need of assistance.
- Prepare a chart showing how this aid will be coordinated between the different agencies.
- Present your disaster plan to the class in an oral report.
- Send one member from each team to a committee that will create a chart showing the coordination.

## The Process: Exploring the Web, Creating a Product

### **NEWS FLASH!**

**THE COMMUNITY OF GRAND ISLAND HAS BEEN HIT WITH A SERIES OF TWISTERS. IT IS NOT KNOWN AT THIS TIME HOW MANY, BUT AT LEAST SIX HAVE BEEN SIGHTED. AT LEAST 56 PEOPLE ARE REPORTED DEAD. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 1,200 MEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE INJURED.**

**ALL POWER AND PHONE SERVICE HAS BEEN CUT OFF. THE WATER SUPPLY HAS BEEN POLLUTED. LOOTING HAS BEEN REPORTED IN THE BUSINESS SECTIONS OF TOWN. THERE ARE NUMEROUS FIRES BURNING OUT OF CONTROL DUE TO BROKEN GAS LINES.**

**AT LEAST 95% OF THE HOMES AND BUILDINGS IN AND AROUND THE TOWN OF GRAND ISLAND HAVE BEEN DESTROYED, INCLUDING MOST OF THE POLICE STATIONS, FIRE STATIONS, AND HOSPITALS. MOST ROADS IN AND OUT OF GRAND ISLAND ARE BLOCKED WITH DEBRIS FROM FALLEN TREES AND BUILDINGS.**

**MOST OF THE 23,000 RESIDENTS ARE WITHOUT FOOD, WATER, CLOTHING, OR SHELTER.**

- With your teacher's help, form five groups and choose the agency below which you will investigate.
- Learn what your agency does in times of need. Make a list so that you can keep track of what you think your group can do to help Grand Island.
- Meet with the other groups to develop a plan to coordinate aid so needed assistance is neither duplicated nor overlooked.
- Based upon your meetings with other groups, decide the specifics of what your group will do to provide assistance.
- Create an AppleWorks slideshow or HyperStudio stack showing the various types of assistance that will be provided by your group.
- Create an AppleWorks chart showing how all the groups will assist this community.
- Present your coordinated plan to your classmates and your teacher.

**Choose one agency from the following.** There will be one left over that will not be used by your class.

**American Red Cross** (<http://www.redcross.org/>) shows ways this agency comes to the aid of disaster victims.

**California National Guard** (<http://www.calguard.ca.gov/>) provides information about how the California National Guard, and other National Guards can help in times of disasters. Scroll down over halfway to get the most information.

**REACT** (<http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/Non-Flash/fire/oes/REACT.htm>) explains what this agency does and how it helps in times of disaster.

**Salvation Army** ([http://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/www\\_usn.nsf/vw-dynamic-arrays/85256DDC007274DF80256B80003B57BB?openDocument](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/www_usn.nsf/vw-dynamic-arrays/85256DDC007274DF80256B80003B57BB?openDocument)) gives a description of some of the disaster situations around the world in which the Salvation Army has assisted. Read about the different incidents and get information on how the Salvation Army aids disaster victims.

**Army Corps of Engineers** (<http://www.usace.army.mil/whatwedo/page3in.ter/>) explains how the Corps helps in emergency situations.

**AmeriCorps** (<http://www.americorps.org/index.html>) explains how the Corps helps communities in times of disaster. This site has all of their more recent accomplishments, so you will need to look at the brief description of the different articles to determine which will meet your needs.

## **How You Will Be Graded**

You will be graded on how well you are able to get the information you need from the sites on the Internet and on how well you are able to work with all of your classmates to coordinate the aid. You will also be graded on the chart that you prepare showing how all the assistance fits together and on your oral report to the class.

Your grade may be based on the following rubric and the Research Report Standard:

- 0 = not evident
- 1 = minimal evidence of mastery
- 2 = adequate evidence of mastery
- 3 = strong evidence of mastery
- 4 = outstanding evidence of mastery