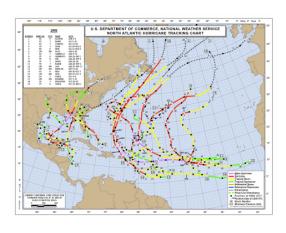
CAPE VERDE HURRICANES



0. CAPE VERDE HURRICANES - Story Preface

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This map, from the U.S. National Weather Service, depicts a particularly active late-summer hurricane season—in 1995—where numerous storms originated at the Cape Verde Islands. Click on the image for a better view.

The Atlantic hurricane season begins in June and ends in November. Some of the <u>worst late-summer storms</u> develop near the Cape Verde Islands, located off the African shore not far from Senegal.

<u>Hurricanes form</u> when a pre-existing disturbance, accompanied by thunderstorms, develops over an ocean that is at least 81 degrees Fahrenheit to a depth of 150 feet. Those warm waters provide a tremendous source of fuel for the storm.

Under the right conditions, the developing storm can become a serious tropical cyclone provided the winds aloft (follow this animated link to see how ocean winds are measured today) are light and have a low wind shear. (A heavy upper wind, with high wind shears, can remove the tops of thunder clouds. That action stops the tropical depression from <u>becoming a hurricane</u>.)

Although <u>tropical cyclones develop</u> in both the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, Cape Verde storms occur within the <u>Atlantic's Hurricane Alley</u>. Pushed west by the prevailing Easterlies, the storms spawned near Cape Verde can track toward land or remain at sea in any given season.

When Africa experiences drought, fewer <u>Cape Verde storms</u> develop. When African rains are heavy, however, the hurricane season is more intense.

"Category 5" is the term meteorologists use to describe the worst <u>types of hurricanes</u>. (This is a link to NOAA's "Hurricane Book.")

"Monster" is one of the terms survivors use for a major storm.

People in Galveston used those words - and many others - the day the sea swallowed their city.

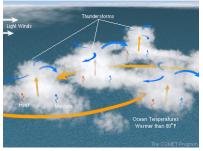
See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

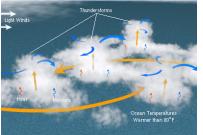
http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/CAPE-VERDE-HURRICANES-Galveston-and-the-Great-Storm-of-1900

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

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Media Stream





Hurricane Formation - Weather Conditions

Drawing of weather conditions, conducive to hurricane-formation, online courtesy NOAA.

View this asset at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Hurricane-Formation-Weather-Conditions

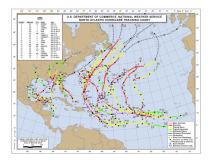


Tropical Cyclone - Storm-Area Graph

Image online, courtesy NOAA.

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