



Hurricane Matthew is coming!



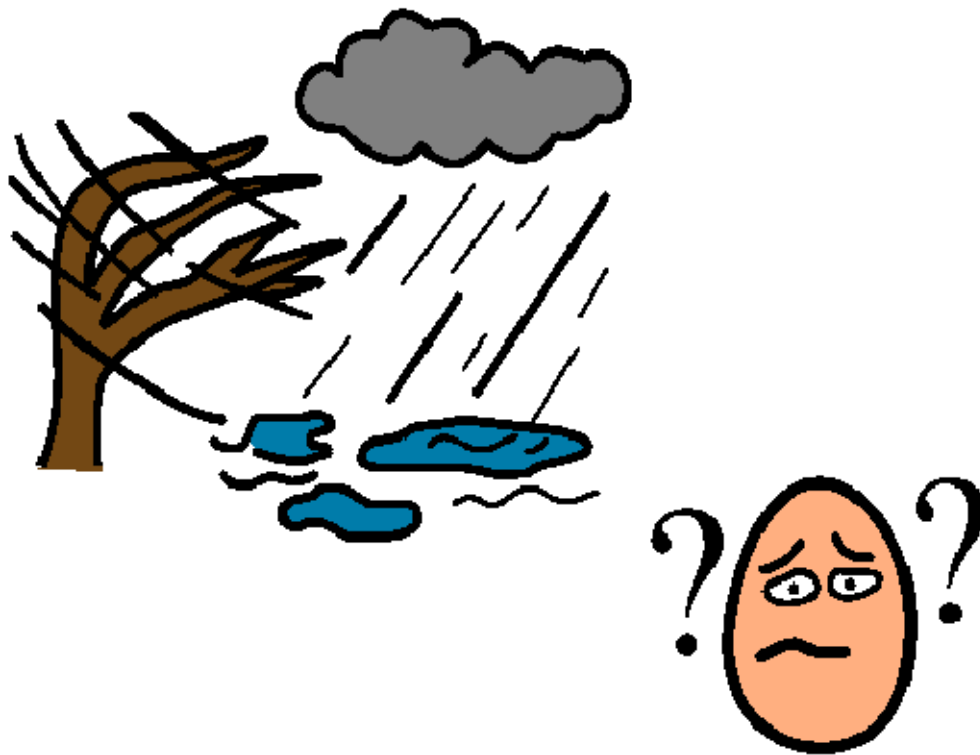
Before a hurricane, people go out and get things to be prepared. It may seem like people are rushing, and they may put up boards on their windows to keep the wind out. My mom and dad will know if we need to do that. Sometimes there are long lines in stores. We need to be patient and wait our turn.



When a hurricane comes, there is lots of wind and rain.
It can get very loud. We have to stay inside.



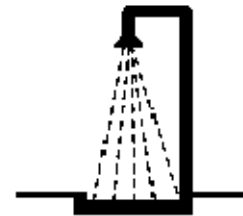
People say “Hunker Down!” in a hurricane. That means stay safe! Be inside, and stay away from windows and doors. Sometimes we may go in a closet or special space for hurricanes if the wind gets too loud. We may make a hurricane kit to take with us!



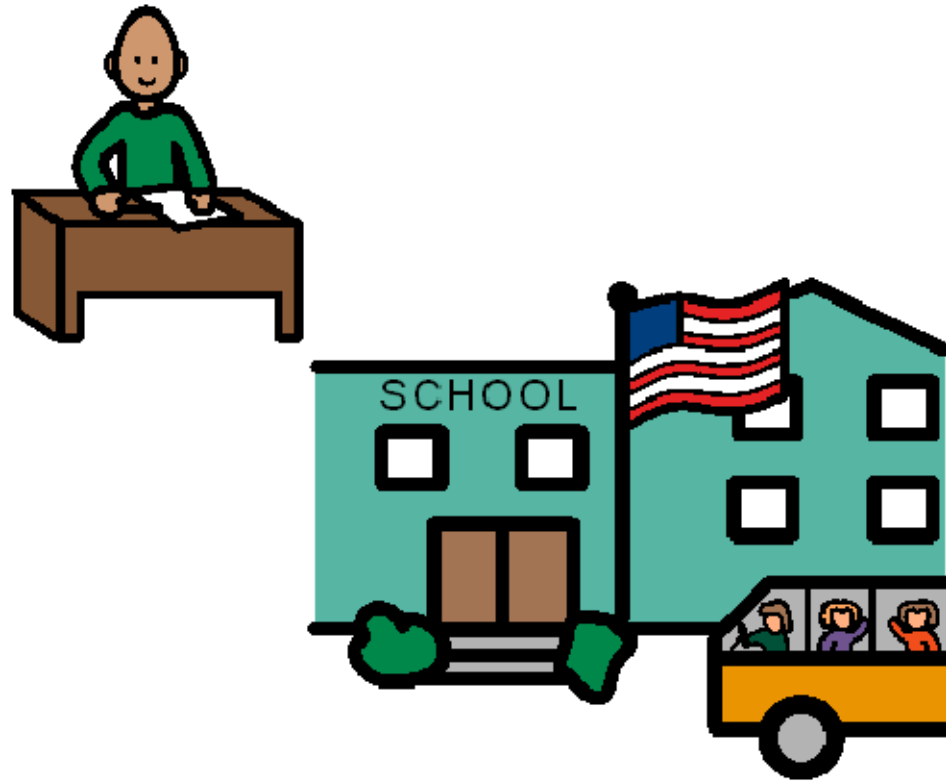
The wind and rain can cause many problems. Roads may get very wet. Big puddles may form. Trees may fall down.



The wind or rain may make the electricity turn off for an hour or sometimes a day or two. We may not be able to use our water or flush our toilet for a while. It may get hot in the house because the air conditioner needs electricity. It will all come back on, but it will take a little while. We can be patient and play board games or read books.



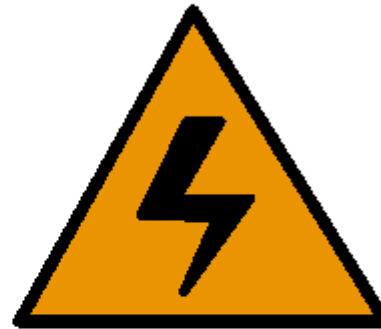
**This means that I can't
turn on the lights,
watch TV,
talk on the phone,
or take a shower.**



**It also means that I can't
go to work or school.**

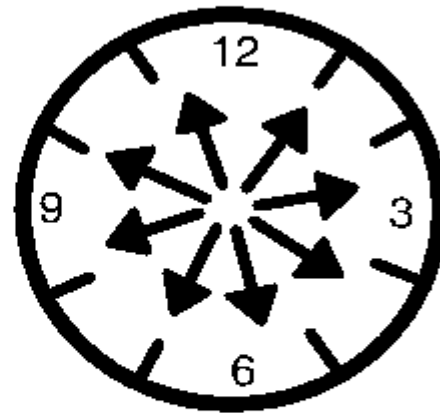


We may need to cook on the grill, or eat sandwiches, because the stove may not work. The stove may need electricity. We may have a barbecue.

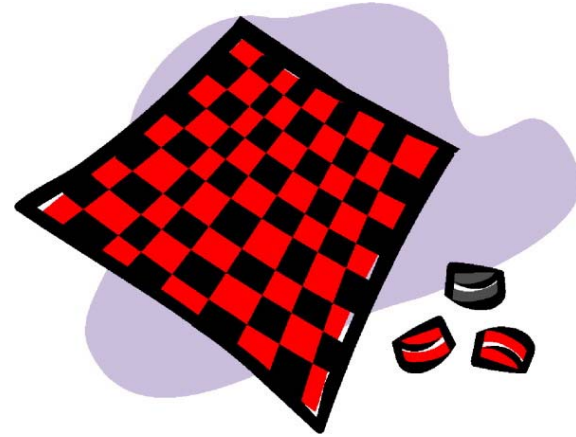
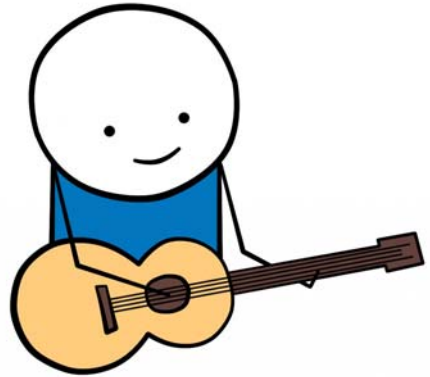


**People are working hard to fix
the water and electricity
but this will take a lot of days.**

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**They probably can't tell me
how long it will take.**



It can be an adventure I have with my family! We can pretend we are pioneers! It is good to think about fun things during the hurricane!



When the storm is over and it is safe to go outside, I can help clean up. I can sweep or pick up trash and things that may have blown into our yard or neighborhood.



I am safe in my home. My family will take care of me until the storm is over! I will be okay!