Hurricane outbreak game

The two essential ingredients in each hurricane are warm water and moist, warm air. That's why hurricanes start in the tropics. Many Atlantic hurricanes begin to take shape when thunderstorms along the west coast of Africa spread over warm ocean waters that are at least 80 degrees Fahrenheit (27 degrees Celsius), where they encounter converging winds from around the equator. Other hurricanes stem from unstable air pockets popping out of the Gulf of Mexico. , where it encounters cooler air, condensing the warm water vapor and creating storm clouds and raindrops. The condensation also releases latent heat, heating the cool air above, causing it to rise and give way to more warm, moist air from the ocean below. This continuous heat exchange creates a wind pattern that spirals around a relatively quiet center, like water swirling in a drain. Converging winds near the surface of the water collide, pushing more water vapor up, increasing the circulation of warm air, and accelerating the speed of wind. At the same time, strong winds are blowing steadily at higher altitudes pulling the rising warm air away from the center of the storm and sending it swirling in the hurricane classic cyclone pattern. High-pressure air at high altitudes, usually above 9,000 meters, also draws heat away from the center of the storm and cools the rising air. As high-pressure air is pulled into the storm's low pressure center, the speed of wind continues to increase. As the storm builds from a thunderstorm to a hurricane, it goes through three different stages based on wind speed: Tropical Depression: wind speeds of less than 38 miles per hour (61.15 kilometers per hour)Tropical storm: wind speeds from 39 mph to 73 mph (62.7 6 k-r to 117.48 k-rpm(kest)Hurricane: wind speeds greater than 74 mph (119.09 k.a> Scientists agree on the mechanics of hurricane formation, and they agree that hurricane activity can rise in an area in a few years and die off elsewhere. However, that is where the consensus ends. Some scientists believe that the contribution of human activity to global warming (increasing air and water temperatures worldwide) makes it easier for hurricanes to form and gain destructive power. Other scientists believe that any increase in severe hurricanes in recent decades would be due to natural salinity and temperature changes deep in the Atlantic – part of a natural environmental cycle that shifts back and forth every 40-60 years. For now, climatologists are busy investigating the interactions between these facts: Air and water temperatures are rising worldwide. Average global temperatures reached a record high in 2016. and greenhouse gas emissions from a wide range of industrial and agricultural processes are contributing to these temperature changes today at a greater rate than in the past. Pacific typhoons (hurricanes in the Pacific basin), on the other hand, have increased in frequency and severity. Mark Lewis/Photographer's Choice/Getty Images Once a tropical storm is classified as a hurricane, it can last as little as a day or as long as a month for it to dissipate. Regardless of its lifespan, all hurricanes undergo a development process called a life cycle. Several factors contribute to their longevity, including air and ocean temperatures, wind speed and other atmospheric conditions. Hurricanes begin as low pressure areas above water bodies in the tropics. Warm, moisture-filled air that rises from the water gathers in the low pressure area, causing thunderstorms. Masses of thunderstorms in tropical low pressure areas are called tropical disturbances. A tropical disturbance does not yet have the organized wind patterns of a tropical storm or hurricane. If the winds begin to organize in a tropical disturbance and circulate around a central area, the system may be a tropical depression. Tropical depressions are named after the low pressure areas in which they form. If wind speeds within a tropical depression increase to 39 miles per hour, the system can be classified as a tropical storm. Tropical storms could turn into hurricanes as wind speeds continue to rise to 74 miles per hour. Hurricanes can last anywhere between less than a day and up to a month. Typhoon John, which formed in the Pacific in the 1994 season, lasted a total of 31 days, making it one of the longest hurricanes recorded. Hurricane Ginger, an Atlantic hurricane, lasted a total of 28 days in 1971, until it was downgraded to a tropical storm. Most hurricanes don't persist for anything near this duration, often petering out well before they come ashore, or shortly after they land. Hurricanes are created when tropical storms form over parts of the ocean with warm, moist air and enough wind to start a spiral. The main cause is the latent heat of water that evaporates from the surface of the ocean, causing atmospheric imbalances that can increase wind speeds to hurricane levels. These can exceed 150 miles per hour around the eye of the hurricane. Hurricanes are cyclones that form near the equator in the Atlantic or much of the Pacific Ocean. Cyclones along the East Asian coast are called typhoons. They both form in the same way and can be the same kind of destruction on coastal cities. According to NASA, hurricanes begin with warm moisture rising from the ocean. This warm moisture is picked up by wind patterns close to the and forms in a spiral. Thunderstorm cells, characterized by cumulonimbus, or anvil-shaped clouds, gather the emerging hurricane and pull the warm air into the upper atmosphere in an increasingly corkscrewed wind pattern. From there, the hurricane creates strong winds, huge waves and fast rainfall, each of which is dangerous for ships. It is easiest for hurricanes to start when weather disturbances, such as thunderstorms, are already present. Although hurricanes begin in warm ocean waters, they can reach shores and travel great distances from the equator. However, once a hurricane moves in a too cold climate or over land, it begins to weaken. On average, a hurricane measures 100 miles in diameter. The eye of the average hurricane measures 30 miles in diameter. A hurricane is measured using the diameter of the hurricane and the wind speeds it reaches. The size and strength hurricanes vary enormously. A hurricane is measured using the Saffir-Simpson scale, which includes five different categories. Category 1 is the least dangerous hurricane, and it produces wind speeds up to 95 mph. By contrast, Category 5 hurricanes are the most dangerous, with winds exceeding 157 miles per hour. Category 5 storms generally cause severe damage to the affected area. People in areas affected by storms that need American Cancer Society services should call our National Cancer Information Center at 1-800-227-2345. For cancer patients, finding care in the wake of major weather events is a challenge – if not impossible. You help cancer patients who have difficulty getting care in this time of crisis by making a donation. No, I don't mean the University of Miami football team, although they're coming, too. I mean real hurricanes. Tropical Storm Isaac, with its possible escalation in a hurricane, ushers in the 2012 hurricane season. And if you're planning travel during the fall- especially somewhere near the southeastern United States or the Caribbean - you should add the possibility of hurricanes to your travel-planning mix. Part of the problem is money: Every time you pay upfront for a travel service, you have money at risk, and you want to make sure that if a hurricane threatens your travel plans, you make the best decisions for yourself. But the other part of the problem is your travel experience: Even if your travel plans aren't interrupted, bad weather may be enough to make you reconsider your trip. And different suppliers treat hurricane problems differently. Airlines. If you have a plane ticket to/from an area with possible consequences, you generally reschedule your trip with airlines without penalty, no cost and no change to the fare. But they offer very little flexibility: You change flights that were originally booked for specific routes and dates, but usually with only two or three days, and your replacement trip should generally be within a week or so of your data start. If you prefer to wait after the airline's narrow deadlines or make other changes, you'll face a combination of exchange fees and possible fare increases. If you wait until time and your airline actually cancels your flight, you get a full refund on even a non-refundable ticket. But you have less flexibility if you decide a few days in advance that you prefer to abort the trip. HOTELS AND RESORTS. Each hotel and resort sets its own policy. But on a non-refundable advance booking upfront payment, many only offer a credit towards a future stay, not a full refund of cash. And the future stay may have a tight time limit. CRUISE LINES. Typically one-sided cruise contracts, which are called contracts of bonding, leave cruise lines plenty of leeway in how they respond to hurricanes without giving you the option of a refund. They rarely cancel outright; instead, they skip planned gates, replace ports, leave sooner or later, and adapt differently. When cruise lines replace a major change in the itinerary, some will voluntarily have you canceled and receive a voucher for a future cruise or onboard credit, but no law requires them to do so. In addition, cruise lines are generally pretty hard-nosed about changes: When a scheduled cruise changes the itinerary significantly, you are faced with a take it or leave it choice without refund or rebooking option. Travel insurance. Most trip-cancellation insurance (TCI) is pretty narrow on covered reasons for cancellation, and hurricane isn't always one of them. The weather that makes your destination uninhabitable or forces your airline to close completely is almost always included as a covered reason, but not the weather that only makes the conditions at your destination unpleasant. And most do not include modified cruise routes as covered reasons for cancellation. In addition, the deadlines are usually limited: You don't cancel just because of a tropical storm that could develop into a hurricane. Fortunately, however, you have some insurance options: Some policies kick in once an official hurricane warning is issued for your destination or cruise area, but others don't pay until a hurricane actually hits. Protect yourself by searching for a policy that includes an alert as a covered reason. An even better bet is a cancel for whatever reason TCI policy. Although this policy is more expensive, they are your only option to cancel without waiting until it might be too late to do anything else. Obviously, for anyone planning to travel in areas in or near the path of a hurricane, the motto is keep checking the weather forecasts and your vendor's website. Vendors are pretty good about posting their current cancellation, delay, and rebooking provisions. Ed Perkins Seniors on the Go is copyright (c) 2012 Tribune Services, Inc. You'd also like: We choose by hand everything we recommend and select items through testing and reviews. Some products are shipped to us for free with no incentive to offer a favorable rating. We offer our unbiased opinions and do not accept compensation to review products. All items are in stock and prices are accurate at the time of If you buy something through our links, we can earn a commission. Commission.

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