

Storms and Natural Disasters

Branley, F. Flash, Crash, Rumble, And Roll. Did you know that lightning bolts can be over a mile long? Or that they may come from clouds that are ten miles high? Storms can be scary, but not if you know what causes them. Before the next thunderstorm, grab this and learn what causes the flash, crash, rumble, and roll of thunderstorms! j 551.554 Branley

Branley, F. Tornado Alert. Branley explains these powerful storms in simple terms young children can understand. He describes the funnel cloud and how it forms and [tells] what to do during a tornado. The book ends on a comfortable note, that the idea is not to panic but to know what to do to ensure safety.
j 551.553 Branley

Calhoun, M. Flood! A fictional Midwestern family is forced to leave their home during the flooding of the Mississippi River. j PAR PIC Calhoun

Cole, J. The Magic School Bus Inside a Hurricane. Ms. Frizzle takes her class on a field trip to a weather station and they end up in a hurricane. j 551.552 Cole

Crum, S. Thunder-Boomer! It's a hot day on the farm, and a little girl, her brother, and their mother are trying to cool off by the pond. Suddenly, dark clouds roll in. A thunder-boomer is on the way! The storm brings pounding rain and hail—and an unexpected visitor: a soggy wet stray kitten. Colorful descriptions of the storm are accompanied by lots of playful sound effects, making this free-verse poem perfect for reading aloud. jP Crum

Ghigna, C. Barn Storm. When a tornado touches down in a pond on Farmer Brown's property, it sets off a chain of events among the barnyard animals that soon has every creature displaced, but not unhappy. jE Ghigna

Gibbons, G. Hurricanes! Young readers can learn how hurricanes are formed, how they are named and classified, and what to do if a dangerous storm is coming their way. j 551.55 Gibbons

Gibbons, G. Tornadoes! Describes what tornadoes are, how they form, the scale used for classifying them, and what to do in case one approaches.
j 551.553 Gibbons

Gibbons, G. It's Snowing! Introduces readers to snow and discusses topics such as different types of snowstorms, regions where snow falls, and how to prepare when a snowstorm approaches. j 551.5784 Gibbons

Macken, J. Waiting out the Storm. Out on a hillside as a storm moves in, a young girl and her mother observe the raindrops falling, the thunder rumbling,

and the lightning flashing. As they approach their house, the girl manages her fear of the storm by asking where the turtles, chipmunks, and birds go during a storm and her mother explains. Indoors, they settle down in a chair together to watch the rain fall. The conversational, yet poetic text likens the girl and her mother to the animals sheltering, safe and snug, from the storm. jP Macken

McCloskey, R. Time of Wonder. The smell of rain, gulls, a foggy morning, the excitement of sailing, the quiet of the night, the sudden terror of a hurricane, and the peace of a Maine island as a family packs up to leave are shown in poetic language and vibrant, evocative pictures. jP McCloskey

Polacco, P. Thunder Cake. Grandma consoles her frightened granddaughter by telling her that the dark clouds of the impending storm are nothing more than the ingredients for a Thunder Cake. j PAR PIC Polacco

Rocco, J. Blizzard. After a massive blizzard, a boy becomes a hero when he manages to walk to the local store and bring supplies back to his neighborhood which has been snowed in for days. Based on the author's childhood experience. jP Rocco

Stewart, M. Hurricane Watch. Winds whip. Waves crash. Rain pours down. A superstorm moves across the ocean and gets closer and closer to land. Perfect for budding meteorologists, Hurricane Watch is bursting with fascinating facts paired with engaging visuals and diagrams. Read and find out how hurricanes form, how scientists track the storms, and what you can do to keep yourself safe if one strikes This picture book also includes a Find Out More section with an activity on air pressure, web research prompts, and a glossary of storm and weather vocabulary. j 551.552 Stewart

Wiesner, D. Hurricane. The morning after a hurricane, two brothers find an uprooted tree which becomes a magical place, transporting them on adventures limited only by their imaginations. jP Wiesner

Yoon, S. Stormy Night. Bear is frightened by a storm, but singing to his toy, Floppy, and being with his parents helps comfort him until the storm goes to sleep, and so does he. jP Yoon