

Overview:

In this lesson, students listen to a story and identify various ways people helped each other in the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami.

Targeted Alaska Grade Level Expectations:

Science

- [3-4] SA1.1 The student demonstrates an understanding of the processes of science by asking questions, predicting, observing, describing, measuring, classifying, making generalizations, inferring, and communicating.
- [4] SD2.2 The student demonstrates an understanding of the forces that shape Earth by identifying causes (ie., earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes, landslides, and avalanches) of rapid changes on the surface.
- [3] SF1.1-SF3.1 The student demonstrates an understanding of the dynamic relationships among scientific, cultural, social, and personal perspectives by exploring local or traditional stories that explain a natural event.
- [4] SF1.1-SF3.1 The student demonstrates an understanding of the dynamic relationships among scientific, cultural, social, and personal perspectives by connecting observations of nature to a local or traditional story that explains a natural event (e.g., animal adaptation, weather, rapid changes to Earth's surface).

Writing

- [K] 1.1.2 The student writes about a topic by dictating or writing words, phrases, or sentences related to a single topic.
- [1] 1.1.2 The student writes about a topic by writing about a single topic using drawings and a minimum of three complete sentences.
- [2] 1.1.2 The student writes about a topic by writing a paragraph on a single topic with two or more supporting details.
- [3] 1.1.2 The student writes about a topic by writing a paragraph on a single topic with two or more supporting details.
- [4] 2.1.1 The student writes about a topic by writing a paragraph that maintains a focused idea and includes details that support the main idea.

Objectives:

The student will:

- Identify characters and setting of a story;
- Identify the main characters observations as a tsunami was about to strike; and
- Identify helpers in the aftermath of a tsunami.

Materials:

- Colored pencils or crayons
- Morris, A., & Larson, H. (2005). *Tsunami: Helping each other*. Minneapolis, Minn. Millbrook Press.
- STUDENT WORKSHEET: "Helping Each Other"

Whole Picture:

Tsunami: Helping Each Other by Ann Morris and Heidi Larson follows the experience of two young brothers during the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami. This picture book tells the story of the destructive power of tsunamis but also shows how people help each other in the aftermath.

Activity Procedure:

1. Explain that students will listen to the story, *Tsunami: Helping Each Other* by Ann Morris and Heidi Larson, to learn about two brothers' experience in a tsunami and all the ways people helped each other.
2. Explain that students should listen closely to answer the following questions as the story is being read or afterwards:
 - What is the setting? *Khao Lak, Thailand, December 2004.*
 - Who are the main characters? *Two brothers, 12 -year-old Chaipreak and eight-year-old Chaiya.*
 - What did they observe just before and during the tsunami? *See page 8.*
 - List the helpers in this story: *doctors, nurses, rescue workers, construction workers, Buddhist monks, tourist volunteers, local police, elephants, search-and-rescue dogs, Thai government, and international agencies (Red Cross, UNICEF).*
3. Distribute STUDENT WORKSHEET: "Helping Each Other" for student completion. Guide students in writing according to the appropriate Alaska Grade Level Expectations.
4. Ask students to share their work with the class.

Extension Idea:

Locate Khao Lak, Thailand on Google Earth.

Answers:

Answers will vary.

Lesson Information Sources:

Morris, A., & Larson, H. (2005). *Tsunami: Helping each other*. Minneapolis, Minn. Millbrook Press.

Name: _____

Helping Each Other Student Worksheet



Draw a picture and write about a helper from the story, *Tsunami: Helping Each Other*.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick black border, intended for the student to draw a picture related to the story.
