



## **Questions for Classroom Discussion**

### **“The Coming Storm”**

**When a tropical storm is 1,000 miles away and heading towards the United States, what are different scenarios that can take place over the next few days?**

- Consider how the direction of the storm can change, and how computer models and data from previous storms are used to predict the path
- Consider how the strength of a storm can either decrease or increase, and how this can drastically change the impact it will have when it strikes land

**What are precautions that can be taken as a major storm approaches, and when is it necessary to take different precautions?**

- Consider basic precautions in a storm, such as stocking up on supplies, having a generator and batteries, and so on
- Consider when major precautions—such as evacuation or finding a safe shelter—are necessary
- Consider how storms that don't strike directly can still be dangerous (heavy rains lead to flooding, lightning storms, tornadoes, etc.)

**What is the role of a meteorologist (i.e. “weather man”) as a storm approaches? Are there instances when he or she can do more harm than good?**

- Consider how a meteorologist can predict the path and strength of a storm, and what the limitations are in making exact determinations
- Consider how a meteorologist tries to inform the public, and which information is most important for the public to have
- Consider how a meteorologist might do a disservice to the public (i.e. incorrect predictions, poor advice, causing alarm, etc.)