

Hurricanes and Their Impacts Answer Key

Sample Responses (answers will vary by student):

1. **People:** Hurricanes force people to evacuate, damage their homes, and cut off power, food, and clean water. After the storm, many families must rebuild and live in shelters. They also face health risks from flooding and contamination.
2. **Animals:** Hurricanes destroy habitats, leaving wild animals without shelter or food. Pets may become lost or abandoned if families cannot take them during evacuation. Floodwaters and debris also put animals in danger.
3. **Environment:** Hurricanes uproot trees, erode beaches, and flood rivers and wetlands. Saltwater from storm surge can kill plants and contaminate freshwater systems. Entire landscapes may change permanently.
4. **Reflection:** Communities can clean up debris, rescue stranded animals, and replant vegetation to restore habitats. People can volunteer, donate supplies, and support rebuilding efforts. Working together helps both humans and the environment recover faster.