

Overview:

Students learn about hazard preparedness and where to go during a tsunami.

Targeted Alaska Content Standards:

Geography

[A2] A student should be able to make and use maps, globes, and graphs to gather, analyze, and report spatial (geographic) information.

Objectives:

Students will make a map of where to go in a tsunami.

Materials:

- Chart paper
- Paper to draw map
- *Tsunami Warning* by Taylor Morrison
- Borough emergency preparedness plan (available at the local borough office)

Activity Procedure:

1. Ask students what they should do if they hear a tsunami-warning siren. Write student responses on chart paper.
2. Read the book *Tsunami Warning* to the class. Discuss the story with the students. Ask students how this story changed the way people know if a tsunami is coming to their local area (the current tsunami warning system that is used today came to be because of this 1946 tsunami in Hilo, Hawaii).
3. Review the student responses given at the beginning of the lesson. Ask students to add anything else to the chart now that they have heard and discussed the story.
4. Ask students where they should go and what they should do if they are at school and they hear the tsunami warning siren. Use the borough emergency preparedness plan to help students to know what to do.
5. Ask each student draw a map of where they should go.
6. Share the maps with the whole class and display them in the room.

Extension Activity:

Have a local borough official who works with hazard preparedness give a presentation to the class.

Other Teacher Resource Books:

Sweeping Tsunamis by Louise Spilsbury

Tsunamis and other Natural Disasters by Mary Pope Osbourne

Tsunamis (Natural Disasters) by Samantha Bonar

Tsunami! By Kimiko Kajikawa and Ed Young

Tsunami-Helping Each Other by Ann Morris and Heidi Larson

Elephants of the Tsunami by Jana Laiz

Heidi and the Tsunami by Hannah C. Watkins