

How Do Hurricane Hunters Track Storms?

Duration **4:55** (cc)

Video Courtesy of [Group Nine Media, Inc.](#)

Shared through [Seeker](#)

STEAM Curriculum Lesson Extension:

Rock Me Like a Hurricane, Grade 4

Goal

Students will learn about the variety of personnel needed on a flight to gather critical data to determine the track and intensity of a hurricane.

Overview

Jessica Williams, a meteorologist and flight director for NOAA, tells us about the different jobs that are carried out on a flight to track a hurricane. She also discusses the importance of hurricane hunters and the job they do.

Connections to EarthX STEAM Curriculum Lesson: *Rock Me Like a Hurricane*

During the lesson, students will discover the destruction a hurricane can cause. The viewing of the video will detail how data about hurricanes that are forming is gathered and then shared with the public in an effort to prepare them.

Guiding Questions

1. How is a member of a hurricane hunting flight crew like a predator hunting its prey?
2. Ms. Williams mentions the many important jobs that are carried out on a mission. They include: flight director, pilot, lead scientist, flight engineer, navigator, dropsonde operator and data processor. Review the responsibilities of each of these jobs (1:22-1:50 and 2:13-4:12) If you were to choose one of these jobs, which one would you choose and why?
3. The flight director leads all of the different people so they can carry out their job effectively. Tell about a time you have led a group. What was the most important thing you did and what skill(s) did you need to do it?

Vocabulary

- NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)
- Meteorologist
- Eyewall
- Briefing
- Rapid intensifier
- Tornadoes
- Longitude / Latitude
- Dropsonde
- Forecast

Standards

Next Generation Science Standards
5-ESS3-1

TEKS Science Objectives
4.b.3C
5.b.3C