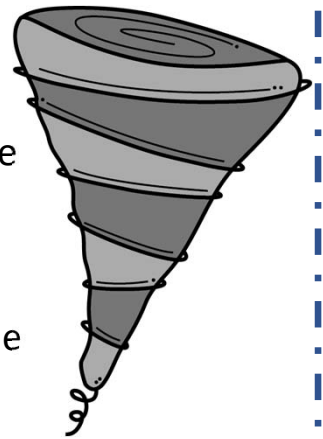


5

A Tornado in Sunnyville



In a small town called Sunnyville, the sun was shining and the birds were chirping. Everyone was going about their day, some were going to school, others to work, and some were just out and about enjoying the beautiful weather. Suddenly, the sky turned dark and the wind began to pick up. People started to feel uneasy and began to hurry home. As they were making their way back, they noticed that the wind was getting stronger and the trees were bending and branches were breaking off. The wind was howling and swirling debris. Suddenly, cell phone alerts went off warning everyone to take cover immediately. People knew what this meant. They had been through it before. It was a tornado warning. They quickly rushed into their homes and basements, hoping to stay safe. The tornado was coming fast and there was no time to waste. As the tornado approached Sunnyville, it began to pick up everything in its path. Trees were uprooted, cars were tossed around like toys, and buildings were destroyed. The tornado was so powerful that it even lifted some houses off their foundations. People were frightened and huddled in their basements, hoping and praying that the tornado would pass without doing any serious damage. They could hear the tornado's roar as it swept through. It sounded like a freight train passing by! After what seemed like hours, the tornado finally passed. Everyone was shocked at what they saw when they emerged from their homes. There was debris everywhere, and the once-beautiful Sunnyville was now in ruins. Even though there was devastation all around, the people of Sunnyville came together to help each other. They worked tirelessly to clear the debris and rebuild their homes and town. They helped their neighbors and showed kindness and compassion to those who had lost everything. Through hard work and determination, the people of Sunnyville were able to rebuild their town even stronger than before. They knew that they could overcome any obstacle as long as they stood together. The tornado had caused great destruction and sadness, but it had also brought the people of Sunnyville closer together, and taught them the true meaning of community and resilience.

1. *Read the passage about "A Tornado in Sunnyville"*
2. *Underline any word or sentence you don't understand.*

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Answer according to the reading passage:

1. The sky:

- a. got windy
- b. looked strange
- c. turned dark

2. What warned everyone to take cover?

- a. a loud siren
- b. cell phone alerts
- c. a loud announcement

3. Where did people go to take cover?

- a. the garage
- b. their basement
- c. an underground shelter

4. What does 'emerged' mean when the reading passage states 'when people emerged from their homes'?

- a. panic
- b. return
- c. come out

5. What did the tornado sound like?

- a. a freight train
- b. loud thunder
- c. an earthquake

A Tornado in Sunnyville

Open Response Questions

Open response questions for thinking skills:

1. Inferring
2. Making Connections
3. Summarizing
4. Visualizing

1. Why did the people think a tornado was coming?
 2. Describe any experience you have with tornadoes? OR, Explain how you would feel and what you would do.
 3. In 3 sentences summarize "A Tornado in Sunnyville" in your own words.
 4. What comes across your mind and what do you visualize as you are reading this passage?
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- What good came out of the tornado? Explain why.
 - Research and write about the safest places to be during a tornado.
 - Is this reading passage a fiction or a non fiction? How do you know?
 - Explain how a person in Sunnyville would feel during and after the tornado.
 - Find out how tornadoes happen and where most tornadoes occur.