

# SPOT THE HAZARD

Take a look at the scene in the photo.

**Can you find at least three hazards?** Circle these with a pen.

**What are the dangers of each of these hazards?** Write these around the photo.



**Write your own definition of a hazard below.**

A hazard is:

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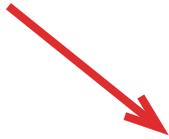
# DIFFERENT DISASTERS

Read the descriptions of different disasters and draw a line to the event being described.

**Can you draw pictures in the boxes to illustrate these different types of disaster?**

(Earthquake has been done for you.)

Earth-shaking waves of energy in the ground



An overflow of water that covers dry land

Very dry conditions that result from a long time without enough rain

A storm that causes extremely strong winds and heavy rain

A series of huge waves caused by an earthquake under the sea



**Write your own definition of a disaster below.**

A disaster is:





## FLOODING IN PAKISTAN



Floods can occur when there is lots of rain, or when rivers become blocked. It is thought that climate change is increasing the amount of rainfall in some parts of the world, making flooding more likely in some places. Sometimes, people have no choice but to build their houses near to rivers, which can mean that they risk being flooded.

### Zafar's story



**Zafar Ullah Balhum is eight. He lost everything in the floods that hit Pakistan in 2010. His family escaped by boat and spent two months living in a refugee camp.**

**Immediately after the disaster Christian Aid worked with other charities to help families, like Zafar's, who had lost their homes. They provided food, blankets, drinking water and tents to thousands of families. When Zafar's family returned home, his mum was given money to help her re-open her shop.**

### Zafar says:

*'Before the floods I used to play happily, but now I get worried; I am worried for my family.'*

*'I was very scared when the floods came. I didn't know if I would survive. A lot of my things were washed away with the water. Of everything we lost, I miss my school books the most, because we studied and learnt from these books.'*

*'On the boat journey [to escape the floods] we were scared because of the rising water level. It was rising so fast, and the force of the water was so strong. The sound of the water was loud, it sounded like an aeroplane.'*

*'When we came back, I saw that the walls of the house were about to fall and I was scared about this. There was so much mud and rubble in the house so I helped as hard as I could to clean up the house.'*

As well as helping people deal with the immediate flooding disaster, Christian Aid's partner Church World Service is helping people to prepare for the future. For example, it has a Mobile Knowledge Resource Centre, like a mobile library, which travels around Pakistan teaching children how to deal with disasters like floods and earthquakes. The children learn what happens in an earthquake, and how to build a boat in case of flood. They have also learnt first aid and how to make sandbags to prevent water coming into their homes.



# FOOD CRISIS IN EAST AFRICA



Droughts can result from very dry conditions, when there has been less rain than usual. Some parts of the world are experiencing less rainfall, partly because of climate change, and this can lead to more droughts in some places. During a drought, crops and animals will often die, leaving people without enough food to eat.

## Ankwoy's story



**Ankwoy Ghebega is nine. He lives in southern Ethiopia. In very dry weather, like when drought affected east Africa in 2011, the family struggle to grow enough to eat.**

*them around 30km (20 miles). Ten of our goats and six of our cows died. They provided us with meat and milk, so when we lost them we lost our food, so we felt very sad.'*

### His mum, Newka, explains:

*'We were affected by the drought. We had finished the supplies of our usual food and we started to eat roots from the soil. This is how we coped. The roots don't taste good and if you eat them straight away, they make you itch around the mouth. We have to soak them in water to get rid of the badness before we eat them (otherwise they would be poisonous). The children wouldn't move because they were so hungry. They just waited for us, crying until we brought food for them.'*

*'The land was full of dust and very dry. You couldn't see any plants around here.'*

*'My son and daughter look after the animals. They herded our cattle and goats to a place with good grass for them. They had to take*

**Ankwoy's family has been helped by Christian Aid partner Agri Service Ethiopia, which has made sure the family has some land of their own, as well as seeds and tools to grow different types of vegetables, like sweetcorn, onions and peppers. It has also helped the family to build a watering system that draws water from the river so that the vegetables can be watered even in times of drought.**

As well as providing food for people during drought, Christian Aid's partners are helping people in Ethiopia to find new ways to grow different types of food so that if one crop doesn't grow, they have other crops to eat.



# EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI



Earthquakes happen when the plates that make up the surface of the Earth rub together, causing the ground to shake. They usually happen in places near where the Earth's plates meet (called fault-lines). Earthquakes can make buildings collapse and cause lots of damage in just a few minutes.

## Samantha's story



**Samantha Cofi is eight. She was staying at her granny's house when an earthquake struck Haiti on 12 January 2010.**

*We sleep here now, with my mum and the three children. It's scary because the house is not safe.*

*'I don't do anything now. I lost all my money because of the earthquake; I had some charcoal in a storeroom but this collapsed and someone stole it. There is now no money to buy anything.'*

## Samantha's mum, Tania, describes what happened:

*'When the earthquake happened I was in my mum's [Samantha's granny's] house. It seemed as though the roof of the house was moving. When I went outside to check, I could feel the earth moving, so I went into the house and got Samantha's two-year-old sister and brought her outside. The earth was moving so much that I fell to my knees, and scraped the skin off them. Just as I got back to the yard the house fell down. It frightened me – my heart started to beat faster. Even now when I hear a loud noise my heart starts racing.*

*'My own house now has a large crack down the wall. One of the walls is still leaning outwards – if you touch this wall it moves, and the roof also moves a lot as it's loose.*

**Christian Aid responded to the earthquake as soon as it struck. In the first few days and weeks, the charity's partners in Haiti provided hot meals, safe water and medical care to survivors, and helped thousands of people to build emergency shelters. Samantha's family were helped by Christian Aid partner SSID, which gave them food, mattresses and items like toilet rolls. It also provided counselling for people who had been affected.**

Now Christian Aid is helping to build strong houses in Haiti that won't fall down in the event of an earthquake or hurricane. It has also provided cash for people who lost everything in the earthquake to help them start up new businesses. And it will be training lots of people in how to prepare for disasters.



# TSUNAMI IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA



Tsunamis are huge waves that are caused by earthquakes under the sea. When this happens, the waves can travel hundreds of miles very quickly, causing great damage when they reach land. Like earthquakes, they usually happen near places where the Earth's plates meet.

## Aisyah's story



**Aisyah lives in Indonesia, one of the first countries to be hit by the tsunami that struck countries across south-east Asia on Boxing Day 2004. Aisyah was 14**

**when the tsunami happened and she had to run for her life to escape the giant waves. Both her parents were killed in the disaster, along with more than 200,000 other people who lost their lives that day.**

### Aisyah says:

*'I was studying in a town near my home when the tsunami came. I was with my friends when people started shouting at us that the water was coming. We ran to a nearby hill where a lot of people from the town were going and we spent the night up there. It wasn't safe to come back down.*

*'The next day my cousin came to find me. He took me back to my village but it wasn't until we got back that I found out about my parents. My uncle broke the news to me and I fainted. I was devastated.*

*'We lived in tents up a hill by the village for about a year. I stayed in a tent with my aunt and uncle and it was horrible; we didn't have any clean water and it was difficult to get food. I just remember feeling so sad about my parents. I would remember their kindness and it would make me cry.'*

**After the tsunami, charities like Christian Aid rushed to help the countries that had been hit by the waves. Within the first few hours, Christian Aid's partners were helping to provide emergency supplies for survivors, such as food, water, medicine and emergency shelter. But rebuilding after such a big disaster takes a long time, and eight years on the recovery work is still happening; new houses and schools are being built and people are being helped to come to terms with the terrible tragedy they suffered when family, friends, homes and livelihoods were swept away in an instant. Over the past three years Christian Aid's partners have rebuilt thousands of houses, including one for Aisyah.**

A new early-warning earthquake system is being installed in the Indian Ocean, so that if an underwater earthquake triggers another tsunami, people will have some warning before it hits land and will have time to escape the waves. It is hoped this will save many thousands of lives if another tsunami happens.



# TROPICAL STORM IN GUATEMALA



Storms and hurricanes usually mean very strong winds and heavy rain. They can cause lots of damage. The changing climate is making some parts of the world experience storms and hurricanes more often.

## Juan David's story



**Juan David Valladares Paz is seven. He lives near a river in Guatemala, a country that is threatened by storms and floods for half of the year. In 2010, Juan David's family faced floods caused by two tropical storms. He had to climb a tree to escape the**

**flood and saw his house collapse into a river.**

### Juan David explains:

*'My cousin came to warn us about the floods: he had heard [a warning] on the radio. We went to the beach before the floods got too bad. People came to get us with a boat so we could get there safely. I wanted to go to the beach because my home is not safe when the floods come. You could drown.'*

*'We were without my mum for eight days. She was in a shelter in a house that is on high land. I watched my house fall into the water; it was breaking in half. Lots of my toys were lost. I never used to be scared of the river, but I am now.'*

*'I am in the first year at school but we couldn't go after the flood because the school was flooded too. We waited until it dried out and then we went back. We were off school for eight days. The floor of the school was all muddy when we went back.'*

**Because Guatemala regularly experiences tropical storms and flooding, Christian Aid partner CPDL had been working with communities like Juan David's to make sure they were prepared for storms. It provided mobile phones and radios to warn people when a storm was on its way. Juan David's cousin heard the flood warning on the radio and was able to warn the family and give them time to escape. Because of CPDL's work, no one died in this flood.**

CPDL is also helping people to ask the government to make sure that rivers are not blocked so that floodwater can be carried away as quickly as possible in a storm.



# WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

You can use this sheet to help you understand the disasters in the case studies.

**What caused the disaster?**

**How were people helped just after the disaster struck?**

**Where did it happen?**

**How have people been helped to prepare for future disasters?**

**What were the effects on people living there?**

**What questions would you like to ask the people affected by the disaster?**



# PREPARING FOR DISASTERS



In Haiti, Christian Aid partners are helping to build strong houses that won't fall down if another earthquake happens. The hut in the front of this picture is where one family had to live after the earthquake destroyed their old house. Behind that is a new, stronger house that is being built for them. This new house should keep the family safe if another earthquake strikes.

Watch the 'Preparing for disasters' film clip and answer these questions:

**Why might disasters be more serious in countries where many people are poor?**

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**What might people need straight after a disaster?**

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**Give one example of how Christian Aid has helped people to prepare for future disasters.**

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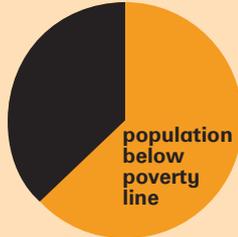


# DEADLY DISASTERS

In 2010, the countries of Haiti and Chile were both struck by earthquakes.



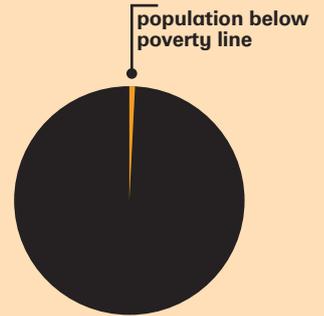
**Location:** Caribbean  
**Strength of earthquake:** 7.0  
**Number of people killed:** 220,000



**Location:**  
South America

**Strength of earthquake:** 8.8

**Number of people killed:** 562



Which was more powerful, the earthquake in Haiti or the one in Chile?

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Why do you think that more people died in the Haiti earthquake than in Chile?

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# CLIMATE CHANGE 'CHATTERBOX'

The climate is changing as a result of pollution. It is thought that floods, droughts and storms are happening more often partly as a result of climate change. Across the world, people are busy finding ways to adapt to the changing weather and to reduce carbon emissions, which make climate change worse.

We all have a role to play in cutting carbon emissions – it's something that all of us can do for the planet. This origami 'chatterbox' game will help you to spread the message!

The first level of this 'chatterbox' shows the kinds of natural disasters that are happening more often because of climate change, the second level suggests actions that can help cut carbon emissions, and the last level explains what effect taking action could have.

Space (in the dotted area) has been left for you to write in one of your own ideas about an action that could reduce carbon emissions. Space (in the striped area) has been left for you to write in what effect that action could have.

## Instructions to make your 'chatterbox'

- Cut out the chatterbox along the outside line.
- Write a carbon-cutting action in the dotted area and write what effect this action might have in the striped area.
- With the printed side up, fold the square in half horizontally and then vertically, and then open out.
- Turn the square over.
- Fold each corner over so they meet neatly in the middle, they should not overlap.
- Leave the square folded, and flip the square over.
- Neatly fold the corners into the centre – make sure they do not overlap.
- With a pair of scissors, carefully cut down the middle of each flap.
- Now the fiddly bit! Fold the whole square in half and poke thumbs and forefingers under the flaps.
- When fingers are brought together, the chatterbox should form a peak and you will be ready to play!



## 'CHATTERBOX'

<p><b>Flood</b></p>	<p><b>Turn off lights</b></p> <p>7</p> <p>Turning off the lights around the home when you leave a room could save your family around £8 a year.</p>	<p><b>Buy local produce</b></p> <p>2</p> <p>In the UK, our food travels an amazing 3 billion kilometres each year.</p>	<p><b>Drought</b></p>
<p><b>Recycle more</b></p> <p>6</p> <p>Recycling in the UK saves an estimated 18 million tonnes of CO<sup>2</sup> a year – the equivalent to taking 5 million cars off the road.</p>		 <p>8</p>	
<p><b>Compost your waste</b></p> <p>1</p> <p>Up to 30% of household waste is organic and could be composted.</p>	<p><b>Try to walk to school</b></p> <p>5</p> <p>During term-time, it is estimated that one in five cars on the road in the morning are taking children to school.</p>	<p><b>Turn off electric appliances</b></p> <p>4</p> <p>Many appliances use nearly as much energy in standby mode as when they are turned on! People in the UK waste £740 million a year by leaving appliances on standby.</p>	<p><b>Turn your heating down</b></p> <p>3</p> <p>80% of home energy is used for heating. Turning heating down by just a couple of degrees saves energy and money.</p>
<p><b>Typhoon</b></p>		<p><b>Hurricane</b></p>	

The facts used in the Chatterbox were sourced from the following websites:

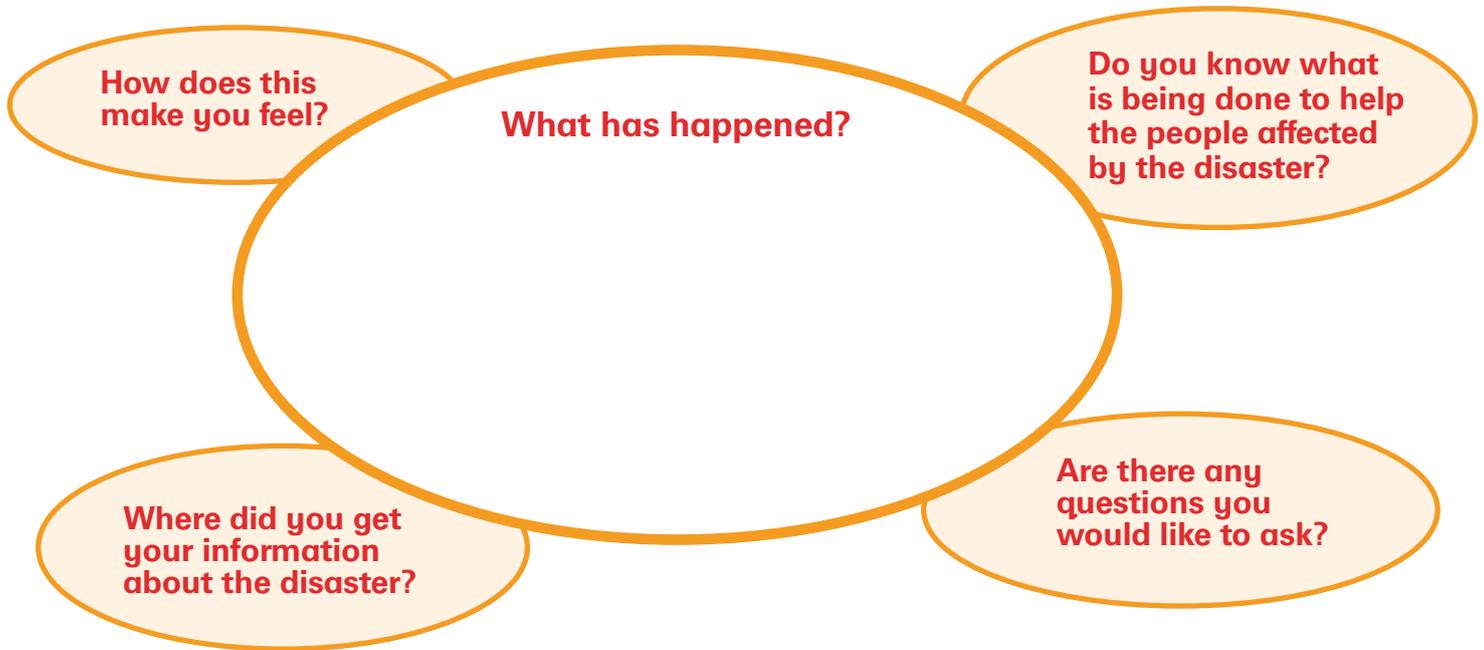
- 1 [recyclenow.com](http://recyclenow.com)
- 2 [climatechoices.org.uk](http://climatechoices.org.uk)
- 3 [direct.gov.uk/en/Environmentandgreenerliving/Energyandwatersaving/Energyandwaterefficiencyinyourhome/DG\\_064374](http://direct.gov.uk/en/Environmentandgreenerliving/Energyandwatersaving/Energyandwaterefficiencyinyourhome/DG_064374)
- 4 [guardian.co.uk/environment/ethicalivingblog/2007/nov/02/pulltheplugonstandby](http://guardian.co.uk/environment/ethicalivingblog/2007/nov/02/pulltheplugonstandby)
- 5 [walkit.com](http://walkit.com)
- 6 [recyclenow.com](http://recyclenow.com)
- 7 [energysavingtrust.org.uk/Take-action/Money-saving-tips/Energy-saving-tips/Energy-saving-kids](http://energysavingtrust.org.uk/Take-action/Money-saving-tips/Energy-saving-tips/Energy-saving-kids)





## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

You can use this worksheet to respond to a disaster when it happens.



**Can you think of any ways that you might be able to help?**

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After a major disaster, Christian Aid will often launch an appeal to raise money. This money goes to its partners, who can spend it on the things they really need to help people after a disaster.

### Some ideas for fundraising in school:

- cake sale
- non-uniform day
- sponsored silence
- sports tournament
- art competition
- clothes swap

**Have you got any other ideas?**

