

Preston High School Geography Department  
**THE WORST NATURAL DISASTER OF ALL TIME**  
PAIRS STUDY PROJECT  
CGF 3M- PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

**Learning Goals:** *B1* Analyze the characteristics of different types of natural hazards  
*B2* Analyze the relationships between physical processes and the earth's physical characteristics

**Assignment Framing Question:**

How have the various natural processes altered the earth's landscape?  
.....What was created? .....What was destroyed?

**Assignment Specs:** 2 lab periods in pairs. Some homework expected  
**Product:** Short PowerPoint with one in text citation and APA references  
Print out PowerPoint (6 slides per page) and references – due Mar 4  
**Communication:** Presentation using data projector (length – 5 minutes)  
**Due Date:** Wed Mar 4

**Research:**

1. Submit to Mr. Miller your Natural Disaster for approval
2. Research the disaster using the Resources provided – search and imbed YouTube videos as well
3. Keep track of sources of information as you progress so you can build your Reference Page

**Presentation Criteria: *What is Where? Why There? Why Care?***

*You may have more than one slide in each category, but the titles of the slides need to be what is given to you in bold.*

**SLIDE 1: Title Slide** with name of Disaster, Your Names, Date

**SLIDE 2: What is Where? Slide** What was the nature of the disaster? When did it occur?  
Who was affected?

**SLIDE 3: Location Slide** Show a map / maps of the location and areas affected (impacted)

**SLIDE 4: Why There? Slide** Discuss the basic cause of the disaster. Briefly

**SLIDE 5: Spheres Slide** Connect your disaster to the different spheres... Both in terms of spheres in which the disaster originated & spheres that were impacted. What was created? What was destroyed?

**SLIDE 6: Why Care? Slide** Discuss the Impacts on Human's Social, Cultural, Economic, Political (Rescue attempts, Aid and Assistance given to region)

**SLIDE 7: Conclusion Slide** Summarize the key points presented

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This year, our course of study has focused heavily on the forces at work on our planet and the results/consequences of these activities. Appropriately, your study focuses on these forces and allows us as a class to put together a list of the worst natural disasters of all time. Your study project requires you to choose one natural disaster and complete an analysis of that disaster.

### **Getting Started – Choosing a disaster**

The following is a list of some suggested natural disasters for you to focus on. However, if you feel that there is a disaster that is not included here but deserves to be recognized as one of the deadliest/fiercest/costliest/etc disaster ever, you may discuss your choice with me. Perhaps the best way to begin is by searching the Internet for some suggestions.

The product will be a short PowerPoint presentation by the two of you on your disaster based on the criteria you will receive on Friday.

### **List of Possible Topics/Natural Disasters**

- The Greenhouse Effect
- Glaciation
- The eruption of Mount Vesuvius
- The eruption of Mount St. Helens
- Hurricane Andrew
- Major Earthquakes of the past
- Significant floods in history
- Landslides
- Avalanches
- Mudslides
- Tsunamis

### **Resources**

- [www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov) - United States Geological Survey
- [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) - Federal Emergency Management Agency
- [www.ccrs.nrcan.gc.ca/ccrs](http://www.ccrs.nrcan.gc.ca/ccrs) - Canada Centre for Remote Sensing
- [www.ccrs.nrcan.gc.ca/ccrs/tekrd/rd/apps/disasterindexe.html](http://www.ccrs.nrcan.gc.ca/ccrs/tekrd/rd/apps/disasterindexe.html) - Disaster Monitoring
- [www.neic.cr.usgs.gov/plate\\_tectonics/rift\\_man](http://www.neic.cr.usgs.gov/plate_tectonics/rift_man) - National Earthquake Information Centre
- <http://ds.dial.pipex.com/ritson/earth> - Earth Sciences
- <http://pub.usgs.gov/publications/text/dynamic.html> - This Dynamic Earth
- [www.climatechange.gc.ca](http://www.climatechange.gc.ca) - Global Climate Change
- [www.ec.gc.ca](http://www.ec.gc.ca) - Environment Canada
- [www.spc.noaa.gov](http://www.spc.noaa.gov) - The Storm Prediction Centre
- [www.ene.gov.gc.ca](http://www.ene.gov.gc.ca) - Ministry of the Environment
- [www.colorado.edu/hazards](http://www.colorado.edu/hazards) - Natural Hazards Centre