I pledge that I have neither given nor received unpermitted aid while working on this packet. All work is entirely my own or cited properly.

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Student Message:
Greetings Students! We hope you are all staying safe and well. We miss you very much, and hope to see you soon. In this packet you will be exploring natural disasters and how to prepare for them. We ask you to think about the natural disasters that you are familiar with on Delmarva. After this packet, you will be well informed on how to prepare for these disasters.

The learning outcomes of your journey through this packet will allow you to:
(RI.11-12.1)
Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
(RI.11-12.2)
Determine two or more central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.

Activity 1: Study the map below to answer the questions that follow.
1. Look at Delmarva on the map. What natural disaster occurs here the most? How does this compare with another part of the country?

2. Are there any other natural disasters NOT listed on the map for Delmarva that have occurred? Explain.

3. What have engineers come up with that protect against natural disasters?

   Example: If you are safe during a blizzard, what keeps you safe? One example is the heating system in your house.

Activity 2: Read two texts about preparing for a natural disaster. Complete the multiple choice questions that follow each text.
In this assignment, you will learn about the importance of being prepared for a natural disaster. You will read two articles titled “Preparing For a Disaster,” and “Not Scared…Prepared”. As you review these sources, you will gather information and answer questions about the importance of being prepared for a natural disaster.

Preparing for a Disaster

By Megan McGibney

1 Some disasters cannot be stopped. These disasters include earthquakes and tornadoes. Tornadoes ruin whatever is in their path. They can vitiate houses and other buildings. Earthquakes have a wider range of intensity—some are so small that no one even notices them, except for the people checking earthquake monitoring equipment. Others have leveled cities. It is very hard to deal with these disasters, and it can take a very long time for life to get back to normal.

2 Because earthquakes and tornadoes are forces of nature, people have to deal with them as they come. The time or intensity of an earthquake cannot usually be predicted. Tornadoes form when the right conditions are met, so a warning would be given once the conditions are detected. But there is still very little time to get ready once a tornado warning is issued. That’s why planning for disaster ahead of time is so important. With proper preparation, we can minimize the disaster’s impact.

3 Earthquakes cannot be reliably predicted. While volcanic activity sometimes triggers earthquakes, many other earthquakes happen without warning. Fortunately, we do know the areas where earthquakes are most likely to occur. The people who live in these places, such as California, Japan, or Italy, know what to do when the ground begins to shake. If they are indoors, they will get away from windows and exterior walls and take cover under a desk or table. If there is no desk around, they can stand against an interior wall, that is, a wall whose other side is not the outside of the building. It is important to take cover in an area that is safe from potential falling objects, such as wall decor, appliances, or furniture. As you can see, people who live in an earthquake territory need to be very aware of their surroundings.

4 Earthquakes can be incredibly destructive, even if they do not last very long. The majority last less than a minute, but there are often aftershocks—smaller earthquakes that occur minutes or hours after the first one. Of course, it all depends on the size of the quake; most are small and don’t have much impact. But the big ones can wreak havoc, especially if the area is not prepared. In places where earthquakes often strike, there are strict codes for buildings with the goal that earthquakes would not cause serious damage. These buildings must be built in such a way that they likely would not fall apart as a result of a big quake. Places like Japan and California have much stricter building codes than places without such a high earthquake
risk. But even these rigorous codes sometimes fail to protect people; the disastrous 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake destroyed the city of Kobe, Japan, and killed over 5,500 people.

5 Knowing what to do when earthquakes happen usually saves lives. The same goes for tornadoes. While some places get tornadoes more than others, it is not easy to predict them. There may be warnings that they will happen, but tornadoes cannot be predicted in the same way rainstorms can, days before they happen.

6 In order to be safe when a tornado does strike, people must already know where they will find shelter. Families and schools must have tornado drills and discuss where to go once a tornado has been spotted. The best place to go to is a basement. If there is no basement, then people should go into hallways or rooms with no windows on the ground floor. Tornadoes can be strong enough to break windows, which can injure anyone nearby. Even after finding shelter in a basement or windowless room, people should cover themselves with a mattress or other padding in case the tornado damages the ceiling and debris falls through.

7 Just as places with earthquakes have special building codes, places plagued by tornadoes often have building codes designed to protect buildings from strong winds. People can also build extra-strong safe rooms to weather the storm in. But often nothing can stop this natural disaster from doing a lot of damage.

8 Although scientists are trying to find better ways to predict these two natural disasters, it is still very hard to know exactly when they will hit and how much damage they will do. In the meantime, people must always be aware that an earthquake or tornado can happen without warning. The important thing is to be prepared and take precautions to stay safe from harm. Buildings can be restored, but lives cannot.

1. **Part A:** Read the sentence from paragraph 1 in the passage “Preparing for Disaster”. They can vitiate houses and other buildings. What does the word vitiate mean as it is used in the sentence?

A. save
B. damage
C. protect
D. preserve

2. **Part B:** Which sentence from the article best helps you understand the meaning of
3. Part A: What are two main ideas of the article by Megan McGibney?

A. Natural disasters can be very destructive.
B. People are usually warned before a tornado touches down.
C. Knowing what to do when a natural disaster happens can usually save lives.
D. People need to have plans for what they will do if a natural disaster strikes.
E. Buildings in areas likely to experience natural disasters must follow special building codes in order from them to be protected from the weather and strong winds.
F. Scientists are in the process of finding new ways to detect when tornadoes and earthquakes will happen.

4. Part B: Which two sentences from the passage best support the answer to Part A?

A. “Tornadoes ruin whatever is in their path.”
B. “The time or intensity of an earthquake cannot usually be predicted.”
C. “It is very hard to deal with these disasters, and it can take a very long time for life to get back to normal.”
D. “These buildings must be built in such a way that they likely would not fall apart as a result of a big quake.”
E. “Although scientists are trying to find better ways to predict these two natural disasters, it is still very hard to know exactly when they will hit and how much damage they will do.”
F. “The important thing is to be prepared and take precautions to stay safe from harm.”

5. Part A: Select the best summary of the article by Megan McGibney.

A. Tornadoes are one of the types of natural disasters. Earthquakes are another type of natural disaster. Both of these natural disasters are caused from volcanic activity. Both of these natural disasters occur without warning.

B. Earthquakes and tornadoes are two types of natural disasters. When one of these natural disasters
happens, people should stay away from windows and exterior walls. They should protect themselves by getting under a desk or table.

C. Earthquakes and tornadoes are two types of unpredictable natural disasters. They both occur with very little warning. People should stay away from windows and exterior walls when they occur.

D. Earthquakes and tornadoes are two types of natural disasters. Warnings for these disasters allow very little time for people to take cover. Planning and preparing before these disasters occur is important so that people can stay out of harm's way.

6. **Part B: Which two quotations from the article best support the answer to Part A?**

A. “Earthquakes have a wider range of intensity—some are so small that no one even notices them, except for the people checking earthquake monitoring equipment.”

B. “Because earthquakes and tornadoes are forces of nature, people have to deal with them as they come.”

C. “With proper preparation, we can minimize the disaster’s impact.”

D. “While some places get tornadoes more than others, it is not easy to predict them.”

E. “Families and schools must have tornado drills and discuss where to go once a tornado has been spotted.”

F. “Just as places with earthquakes have special building codes, places plagued by tornadoes often have building codes designed to protect buildings from strong winds.”

**Activity 2 Con’t:**

**Not Scared ... Prepared**

*By Valerie Havas*
Sometimes news headlines are scary. Hearing about tornadoes, bird flu, war, and events such as Hurricane Katrina can make you feel worried. But there are reasons to relax. Now more than ever, many people—from individuals to government officials—are working to prepare for and respond to disasters.

First responders are ready for emergencies. And some schools regularly stage fire and severe-weather drills. Students at Pine View Middle School in Land O' Lakes, Fla., for example, sometimes practice evacuating buildings, just as they would during a tornado. The school's principal, David Estabrook, is a shelter manager. He received special training. "It's a whole lot of people working together—the Red Cross, the sheriff's office, and the school," he says.

States also prepare for emergencies. In Alaska, more than 40 volcanoes have erupted since the 1700s. So the state's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management provides Alaskans with tips on dealing with volcanic ash. Officials in California try to prevent large floods, which could occur if levees in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta region break because of an earthquake or a big storm. A few years ago, California’s former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a state of emergency in that area because of damage from big rainstorms.

Governments are also preparing for possible health-related disasters, such as an outbreak of the bird flu. The disease has infected and killed some people in other parts of the world. North American agencies are testing migratory birds and creating response plans in the event that it spreads to this part of the world. A Web site operated by the Department of Health and Human Services offers planning checklists for state and local governments, schools, businesses, healthcare services, and individuals.

Many government groups prepare for possible disasters and respond to them. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was created to help people both before and after disasters. FEMA does everything from helping make sure that buildings are designed to withstand damage to training emergency workers. When Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, many people censured FEMA for not responding as well as it could have. There has even been talk of shutting FEMA down and creating a new agency.

Other federal disaster responders include the National Guard and the U.S. Coast Guard. The National Guard is a group that can quickly be activated in the event of a national emergency, such as a hurricane, floods, or a war. The Coast Guard is the nation's oldest agency for protecting U.S. waters. It carries out search-and-rescue missions during and after disasters.
Many organizations outside the government help out too. For instance, the American Red Cross responds to more than 70,000 disasters each year, offering food, shelter, and other essential aid. The organization also provides almost half the nation's blood supply. In addition, the Red Cross offers lifesaving courses in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). CPR helps restore normal breathing in a person who is unable to breathe. The Red Cross is currently working on creating a better disaster response system. One of the organization's goals is to work with more community groups.

Habitat for Humanity gives volunteer laborers the training and supervision they need to help disaster victims rebuild their homes. Organizations such as the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA), the Humane Society, and Noah's Wish train volunteers to rescue animals in times of disaster.

Of course, you can't prepare for every kind of disaster, and there's no need to try. After all, there's no reason to fear a tsunami if you live in Kansas or to lose sleep over earthquakes if you don't live near a fault zone. Not every health scare or news story is cause for alarm to you and the people you love. For specific issues that might affect you, though, it's good to know that people are ready, just in case.

What does the word **censured** mean in the sentence?

A. To disapprove of

B. To approve of

C. To honor something

D. To admire someone or something

7. Part A: Read the sentence from paragraph 5 in the “Not Scared...Prepared.”

When Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, many people censured FEMA for not responding as well as it could have.
8. Part B: Which statement from the passage best supports the answer to Part A?

A. “Many government groups prepare for possible disasters and respond to them.”

B. “The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was created to help people both before and after disasters.”

C. “FEMA does everything from helping make sure that buildings are designed to withstand damage to training emergency workers.”

D. “There has even been talk of shutting FEMA down and creating a new agency.”

9. Part A: Why does the author most likely place the information in paragraph 1 at the beginning of “Not Scared...Prepared”?

A. to encourage the reader to learn about hazards and why they do not need to worry about as much about them

B. to show the reader how different organizations have come together to help people during dealing with hazards

C. to draw the reader in by explaining the different types of hazards

D. to teach the reader about the different organizations

E. to teach the reader about the different organizations

10. Part B: Which detail from “Not Scared...Prepared” best supports the answer to Part A?

A. “Sometimes news headlines are scary.”

B. “Hearing about tornadoes, bird flu, war, and events such as Hurricane Katrina can make you feel worried.”

C. “But there are reasons to relax.”

D. “Now more than ever, many people—from individuals to government officials—are working to prepare for and respond to disasters.”

Activity 3: Choose one of the activities below to complete.

1. In an essay, compare how the articles by Megan McGibney and Valerie Havas describe how the government has played a role in helping people prepare for a natural disaster. Support your essay with information from BOTH sources.

Reminders—Be sure to include the following in your essay:
Introduction Paragraph (include thesis here)
3 Body Paragraphs (include details from each text and your own analysis here)
Conclusion Paragraph (Sum up your main point)
2. Create an infographic, as shown below, explaining how to prepare for a natural disaster.

Reminders - Infographics are visual representations of information, data or knowledge. These graphics are used where complex information needs to be explained quickly and clearly.

Your infographic should include:
- Titles
- Pictures
- Show your story, Don’t tell it
- Credible Information
- Add color when you can