



The Joplin Torado

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In 2011, a small town called Joplin was struck by one of the deadliest tornadoes in American history. The tornado was a massive storm that ripped through the town. It destroyed everything in its path.

As the tornado approached, people scrambled for safety. Some hid in their homes or basements. Others found shelter in schools and churches.

But even the strongest buildings couldn't withstand the tornado's fury. The wind was so powerful that it ripped roofs off houses. It knocked down power lines and trees, It caused massive fires.

For hours, the tornado raged on. The tornado left path of destruction. When it was finally over, the people of Joplin emerged from their hiding places. They were upset by the scene before them. Homes and buildings were reduced to rubble. Debris littered the streets.

In the days and weeks that followed, the people of Joplin banded together to help one another. Volunteers from across the country came to lend a hand, Donations poured in to help rebuild the town.

Despite the tragedy, the people of Joplin remained strong. They worked tirelessly to rebuild. Today, Joplin is once again a thriving town.

The Joplin tornado was a reminder of the awesome power of nature. People learned the importance of being prepared for disasters. This tragic event shows the power of coming together in times of need.

So, the next time you hear about a natural disaster, remember the story of Joplin and the lessons we can learn from its experience.

1. When did the Joplin tornado occur?
2. What was the tornado's impact on the town?
3. How did people in Joplin seek shelter during the tornado?
4. Why were even strong buildings unable to withstand the tornado's fury?
5. How did the people of Joplin respond to the disaster?
6. What lessons can we learn from the Joplin tornado?
7. How is Joplin doing today, years after the tornado?

Answer Key

1. When did the Joplin tornado occur?

The Joplin tornado occurred on May 22, 2011.

2. What was the tornado's impact on the town?

The tornado had a devastating impact on the town of Joplin. It destroyed or damaged thousands of buildings, including homes, businesses, and schools. Many people were injured or killed, and the tornado caused billions of dollars in damage.

3. How did people in Joplin seek shelter during the tornado?

Many people in Joplin sought shelter in basements, storm shelters, or other reinforced structures. However, some people did not have access to these kinds of shelter and were forced to take cover in less safe places.

4. Why were even strong buildings unable to withstand the tornado's fury?

The Joplin tornado was an EF5 tornado, which is the strongest category of tornado. It had winds that exceeded 200 miles per hour and was able to cause extensive damage even to buildings that were designed to withstand severe weather.

5. How did the people of Joplin respond to the disaster?

The people of Joplin responded to the disaster with incredible resilience and determination. They came together to support one another, and many volunteers from around the country came to help with recovery efforts. The community worked hard to rebuild and restore the town in the wake of the tornado.

6. What lessons can we learn from the Joplin tornado?

The Joplin tornado teaches us the importance of being prepared for severe weather and having a plan for seeking shelter in case of a tornado. It also shows us the importance of community support and coming together to help those in need during times of crisis.

7. How is Joplin doing today, years after the tornado?

Joplin has made significant progress in rebuilding and recovering from the tornado. Many of the damaged buildings have been restored or replaced, and the community has come together to create new opportunities for growth and development. While there is still work to be done, Joplin is a testament to the resilience and strength of its people.



Tornadoes are powerful, rotating columns of air that form during thunderstorms. They are capable of causing a lot of damage and can be very dangerous.

How tornadoes form:

Tornadoes form when there is a certain combination of warm, moist air and cool, dry air. When these two types of air meet, they create instability in the atmosphere. If a strong updraft (rising air) is present, it can start to rotate, creating a mesocyclone (a rotating column of air). If the conditions are right, the mesocyclone can start to narrow and become a tornado.

Different types of tornadoes:

There are two main types of tornadoes:

- supercell tornadoes - Supercell tornadoes are the most common and are associated with thunderstorms.
- non-supercell tornadoes - Non-supercell tornadoes can form in a variety of ways and are generally weaker than supercell tornadoes.

How to stay safe during a tornado:

The best way to stay safe during a tornado is to seek shelter in a sturdy building or underground shelter. If you can't get to a building, try to find a low-lying area and lie flat on the ground, covering your head and neck with your hands. If you're in a car, get out and seek shelter in a nearby building or lie flat in a low-lying area, again covering your head and neck.

It's important to stay informed during a tornado watch or warning. Listen to local news and weather reports for updates on the situation and be prepared to take action if necessary.



The Joplin Tornado

1. The Joplin Tornado occurred on May 22, 2011 and was one of the deadliest tornadoes in U.S. history.
2. The tornado was rated an EF5, the highest possible rating for tornadoes.
3. The tornado had winds that reached over 200 miles per hour.
4. The tornado was over a mile wide, making it one of the widest tornadoes ever recorded.
5. More than 7,000 homes were destroyed or damaged by the tornado.
6. The tornado caused over \$2 billion in damages.
7. The Joplin tornado lasted for 38 minutes.
8. Over 150 people lost their lives and thousands more were injured as a result of the tornado.
9. Some pieces of debris were found 60 miles away from Joplin.
10. The Joplin tornado was a reminder of the importance of being prepared for natural disasters, and the power of communities coming together to help one another in times of need.

The Deadliest Tornadoes

The deadliest tornadoes on record in the United States include:

1. **Tri-State Tornado (March 18, 1925)** - The deadliest tornado in U.S. history, the Tri-State Tornado killed 695 people and injured over 2,000. The tornado traveled over 219 miles through Missouri, Illinois, and Indiana.
2. **Natchez, MS (May 6, 1840)** - A tornado struck Natchez, Mississippi, killing 317 people and injuring over 1,000.
3. **St. Louis, MO (May 27, 1896)** - A tornado hit St. Louis, Missouri, killing 255 people and injuring over 1,000.
4. **Tupelo, MS (April 5, 1936)** - A tornado struck Tupelo, Mississippi, killing 216 people and injuring over 700.
5. **Joplin, MO (May 22, 2011)** - An EF-5 tornado hit Joplin, Missouri, killing 158 people and injuring over 1,000.
6. **Woodward, OK (April 9, 1947)** - A tornado struck Woodward, Oklahoma, killing 181 people and injuring over 1,000.
7. **Gainesville, GA (April 6, 1936)** - A tornado hit Gainesville, Georgia, killing 203 people and injuring over 1,600.
8. **Flint, MI (June 8, 1953)** - A tornado struck Flint, Michigan, killing 116 people and injuring over 800.
9. **Omaha, NE (March 23, 1913)** - A tornado hit Omaha, Nebraska, killing 103 people and injuring over 350.
10. **Joplin, MO (May 27, 1896)** - A tornado struck Joplin, Missouri, killing 75 people and injuring over 500.

Tornadoes have been recorded in the United States for centuries, but accurate and detailed records of tornado activity only began in the mid-20th century. The deadliest year for tornadoes in the United States was 2011, when 553 people were killed by tornadoes.

1. What is the average number of tornadoes per year in the United States?
2. What is the deadliest tornado on record in the United States?
3. Which state was hit by a tornado that killed 203 people and injured over 1,600?
4. When did accurate and detailed records of tornado activity begin in the United States?
5. Which year was the deadliest year for tornadoes in the United States, and how many people were killed?

Answer Key

1. What is the average number of tornadoes per year in the United States?

Answer: The United States experiences an average of about 1,200 tornadoes per year.

2. What is the deadliest tornado on record in the United States?

Answer: The Tri-State Tornado, which occurred on March 18, 1925, is the deadliest tornado on record in the United States.

3. Which state was hit by a tornado that killed 203 people and injured over 1,600?

Answer: Gainesville, Georgia was hit by a tornado that killed 203 people and injured over 1,600.

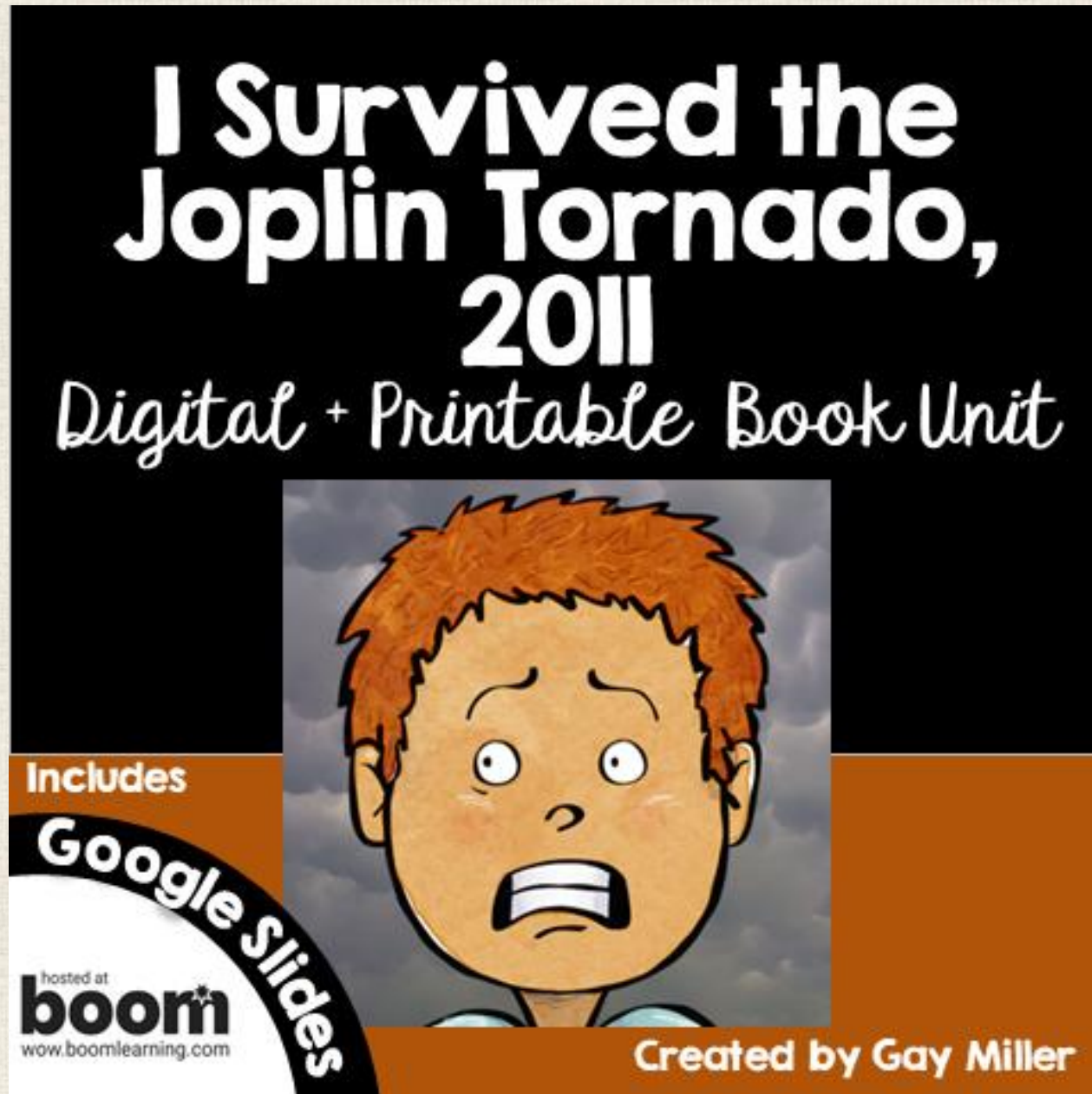
4. When did accurate and detailed records of tornado activity begin in the United States?

Answer: Accurate and detailed records of tornado activity in the United States began in the mid-20th century.

5. Which year was the deadliest year for tornadoes in the United States, and how many people were killed?

Answer: The deadliest year for tornadoes in the United States was 2011, when 553 people were killed by tornadoes.

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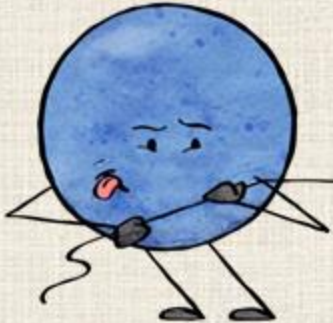


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