

Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will understand what tornado sirens are, how they work, and learn about tornado safety. They will also explore basic engineering concepts by creating a simple model of a tornado siren using household items.

Materials and Prep

- Paper
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors (with adult supervision)
- Glue or tape
- A map of the local area (can be drawn or printed)
- Household items for DIY (like a cardboard tube, small box, etc.)

Before the lesson, make sure to explain the importance of tornado safety and familiarize the student with the local area map.

Activities

• Tornado Siren Introduction

Start by explaining what a tornado siren is and why it is important. Use a fun sound effect or a video clip of a siren to grab their attention. Discuss how it helps keep people safe during a tornado.

• DIY Tornado Siren Model

Using household items, guide the student in creating a simple model of a tornado siren. They can use a cardboard tube as the base and decorate it with markers. This hands-on activity will help them understand how sirens work.

• Map Exploration

Using the local area map, help the student identify where they live and where the nearest tornado siren is located. Discuss why knowing this information is important for safety.

• Tornado Safety Role Play

Engage the student in a role-play activity where they practice what to do when they hear a tornado siren. Discuss safe places to go and what to take with them.

Talking Points

- "A tornado siren is like a loud alarm that tells us to be safe when there's a tornado!"
- "Do you know how the siren makes that noise? It helps everyone hear it, even if they are outside!"
- "Let's make our own tornado siren! What colors do you want to use?"
- "Look at this map! Can you find where we are and where the siren is?"
- "When you hear the siren, it's time to go to a safe place, like a basement or a big room without

windows!"