

'Frankenstorm' and The Lost Colony

The Perfect Storm

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Introduction to the task:

In 1588 a great storm, perhaps a 'perfect storm' changed both European history and North Carolina history. At the time, England, under the rule of Elizabeth I of England, and Spain, under the rule of Philip, II were in a power struggle for control of the wealth that had recently been discovered in the New World. The Spanish had a huge fleet of ships, called the Spanish Armada, and the Armada was considered the 'cutting edge' fleet of the time. When Philip II decided to invade England, to establish Spain's power once and for all, Elizabeth commandeered all 'ships of the realm' meaning even the smallest vessels were seized by the English navy to fight the Spanish Armada. Because all ships were conscripted into the English navy, John White, the governor of the Roanoke Colony, was unable to secure a ship in which to deliver critical supplies to the colony in North Carolina. Consequently, the colony on Roanoke was lost. The overall outcome for England, however, was successful because a great storm brewed in the waters around England, and the powerful Spanish Armada was destroyed by the storm. The Spanish ships were huge and clumsy while the smaller, more agile English ships were able to maneuver out of the storm's path.

CCSS connections:

- Reading Informational Texts
- Writing Strategies 6-12
- Language Strategies for 6-12
- Literacy in History/Social Studies/Science/Technology

Purposes of task:

- to investigate the effects of technology on current events
- to understand the effect of weather on history
- to evaluate the saying 'forewarned is forearmed' with regard to hurricanes such as Hurricane Sandy in 2012

Directions:

- Read about previous Hurricanes and their impact on North Carolina. Be sure to read about the 1954 storm: Hurricane Hazel.
- Read about the impact of a great storm in England in 1588 and its effect on the Lost Colony. See suggested sites below:
 - <http://the-lost-colony.blogspot.com/2009/02/elizabethan-age-spanish-armada.html>
 - <http://quizlet.com/9686561/the-lost-colony-of-roanokethe-battle-of-the-spanish-armada-flash-cards/>

- http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How_did_the_Battle_of_the_Spanish_Armada_affect_the_Roanoke_Colony
- <http://www.experts123.com/q/how-did-the-battle-of-the-spanish-armada-affect-the-roanoke-colony.html>
- http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2004/10/1014_041014_hurricane_hazel_2.html
- Review other sites.
- Read stories published in October/November 2012 about Hurricane Sandy.
- Take notes (preferably Cornell Notes) to use in the production of your final response to the prompt.
- Produce a product to explain how nature and technology interact to create ‘history;’ be sure to consult with your instructor regarding the format, etc. of your response.

Prompts – respond to one of the following:

- If today’s technology had been available to Philip II, how would the Lost Colony’s fate have been affected?
- If you were in charge of a candidate’s presidential campaign, what, if any, strategies would you employ to avoid negative outcomes for your campaigns related to changes in climate and current storms and hurricanes, such as Hurricane Sandy in 2012?

Rubric:

- Use MLA or other approved format in your presentation.
- Be sure to create a graphic organizer to plan your response.
- Cite at least five sources in your response. Include internal citations where appropriate.
- Employ progressive logic/logical coherence in your responding argument.
- Argue respectfully, yet forcefully.
- Use standard writing conventions: language usage and mechanics.
- If you are preparing a digital response, include illustrations, photos, if possible, giving credits where needed. Consult with your instructor about the format of your response.
- Collaborate on the research and enjoy the benefits of teamwork.