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### The First Time I Dealt with A Hurricane In New York City

I remember waking up early in the morning to get ready for school it was just a regular school day wasn't in the brightest mood, I was rushing trying to get ready to pack then suddenly I heard my mom turning on the Tv I couldn't see anything so I rushed to my room and got my glasses then all of a sudden I see red flashing lights in the Tv saying breaking News my mom was watching but I couldn't hear the TV clearly so I got the Tv remote and increased the volume. As soon as I increased the Volume I heard the news reporters talking about an unpredictable Hurricane named Hurricane Sandy. The news reporter stated the Hurricane will hit New York and New Jersey in a matter of a few days on October 29, 2012. The reporter talked about the Hurricane so suddenly that my mother was in shock. This was the first time in my life I experienced climate change and at the time I didn't take the situation seriously.

That same day I had class once which was the last class we had due to the hurricane. Me and my classmates were excited that there was a one-week break from school due to Hurricane Sandy. I was in second grade so I didn't understand how serious this hurricane was and how it could potentially destroy people's homes. The whole day the teacher explained some of the ways we could stay safe when the hurricane strikes. Throughout the class, my friends and I were full of joy talking about the video games we were going to play over the break. Myself and my classmates didn't understand what a Hurricane is capable of doing. But the adults and teachers in

my school did take it seriously and had a serious tone in their voices. When we headed outside for dismissal the sunlight started shining in peoples faces forcing them to move to the shade, it didn't even seem like it was going to be a Hurricane in a few days. Even Though it was a sunny day no one was running around or playing in the school park, everyone went straight home. When I noticed this, I started taking the Hurricane more seriously.

The day before the Hurricane, my mother and I got everything that was needed for the Hurricane lockdown. We got flashlights and candles in case of a power outage. We also stocked up on food and water due to the shortage of water bottles. Everyone in the store was in a hurry to leave and some people even fought over flash lights and Water bottles due to the limited supplies. When we headed home we sorted out all the supplies and prepared for the storm. We had family over so we all could cope with our stress together. My aunt left her home in New Jersey to come to New York, her neighborhood had the highest possibility of getting hit the hardest by the Hurricane because her neighborhood was next to a seaside. So for her safety she came over and stayed the night.

In a matter of a few hours it was the Day of the Hurricane. When I woke up I looked outside, the clouds started to gather together in the sky and started turning grey. It looked like it was going to be a massive storm in a matter of minutes. I headed to the living room and saw my aunt and my mother in the living room watching the news. In the News the reporter predicted that New Jersey and New York were going to get hit by Hurricane Sandy in the afternoon. Throughout the whole day we looked through the window and saw that there was a strong wind gust moving the trees back and forth. Some of the big trees looked like it was going to break in half because of the wind. In about four hours of us waking up we lost heat. We were all wearing two layers of clothing to keep ourselves warm. It was so cold to the point we needed two

blankets each. Our power was flicking on and off when we were trying to get the blankets, then out of nowhere our power cut off, my mom and my aunt were both calling me to make sure I was alright, thankfully I was. My mom slowly got to the kitchen and started lighting up candles. Even Though we lit candles, everything was still pitch black we heard tree branches breaking and sounds of trees collapsing outside. The power outage lasted for 8 hours but luckily we slept it out in the kitchen and our power came back the next day. But when we all looked out the window the aftermath of the hurricane was frightening. The cars were flipped over and the streets were entirely flooded with murky dirty water, road signs were completely destroyed and some people were outside in shock crying due to their cars being flooded and destroyed. When I saw the aftermath I truly understood what climate change was capable of doing. I wanted to see the aftermath for myself so I headed down stairs but when I went downstairs it was water up to my ankles the water was cold and dirty it went into my shoes to my socks I was trying to go outside of the apartment but then I seen the superintendent trying to to drain the water out of the building. The superintendent told me to stay inside of the apartment because outside of the building there was a dangerous flood. So I headed upstairs to my apartment and told my mother and aunt that we had to stay in due to the flood.

Thus in the end everything turned out well for me and my family. My aunt's house didn't get damaged as much as we thought it would and we all made it out safe. We were the lucky ones because lots of peoples homes got completely destroyed by the Hurricane. Throughout this experience I really understood how serious climate change is and what climate change is capable of. I also learned the importance of family because I was with my family and we all dealt with Hurricane Sandy together.