



Name _____ Date _____

What is a Flood?

A flood is an **overflow** of water which covers land that is normally dry. Floods can be caused by many things including: heavy rainfall, rivers overflowing their banks, severe sea storms, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and accidental damage or **burst** pipes.

An areal flood is when the ground becomes so wet that the water cannot disperse. This is usually caused by heavy rainfall or a series of storms taking place in the same area.

A coastal flood occurs along lakes and oceans and is caused by severe storms. They can also be caused by other extreme weather conditions including hurricanes, **tornadoes** and tsunamis.

Flash floods often happen in dry areas and are usually caused by heavy rain connected with a storm or a hurricane. The collapse of a human structure such as a dam or a bridge may also result in a flash flood. Flash floods can be extremely dangerous as they deliver a large amount of water in a short period of time.

Hurricane Katrina is one of the five most deadliest hurricanes in America. The hurricane formed on August 23, 2005 over the Bahamas. It caused an **estimated** \$81 billion dollars worth of property damage.

1. What kind of **aid** can you give to people who have been in a flood?