

Tornado Safety

Pre-reading

Questions:

- What do you know about tornado safety?
- What would you like to know?



Photo courtesy of NSSL

Definitions:

- Severe – strong or intense; harsh

Reading

18 The sky is dark. It looks kind of green. There is a wall cloud in the sky and
35 reports of large hail in the area. A tornado warning is heard on the radio and TV.
48 This warning means that a tornado has been sighted. What should you do?
64 If you are at home, move to the basement. If there is no basement, move to
79 the lowest level. Stay away from windows. Go to an inner hallway or a room
89 without windows. A bathroom or closet is a good choice.
106 Stay low. Use your arms to protect your head and neck. If you are in a mobile
117 home, get out. Move to the severe weather shelter right away.
135 If you are in your car, get out of your car. Do not try to outrun a tornado.
148 Tornadoes can quickly change directions. Your car or truck could quickly be tossed
158 through the air. Try to take shelter in a building.
177 If there is no time to get indoors, get out of your car. Lie in a ditch or low-
192 lying area away from your car. Use your arms to **protect** your head and neck.

Understanding

1. How does the sky look before a tornado? _____

2. Where could you find weather warnings? _____

3. What does the word **protect** mean? _____

4. If there is a tornado warning, what is the safest level in your home? _____

5. What should you stay away from? _____

6. Where should you go if you're in a mobile home? _____

Writing

Choice A: Think about your home. Where would you go if there was a tornado? Why would you choose that place?

Choice B: Write about a tornado you've heard about or lived through.
