



Tornadoes!

Gail Gibbons

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Tornadoes are funnel-shaped clouds that can cause massive destruction on the ground. Their winds can swirl faster than 260 miles per hour! Using her acclaimed combination of clear text and detailed illustrations, Gail Gibbons explains how tornadoes form, the scale used for classifying them, and what to do in case one should be in your area.

Tornadoes! Details

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Author : Gail Gibbons

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Genre : Science, Childrens, Picture Books, Nonfiction

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From Reader Review Tornadoes! for online ebook

Nicole Hoag says

Genre: Informational

This book is packed with great information about tornadoes, but in a way that is geared towards children. It shows the information in a way so it is less scary to a child but still not shying away from the truth and the danger of them.

Grades: 1-2

Collin Powell says

This book has some similarities to another book written by Ms. Gibbons called Owl. The illustrations are done in a similar style and provide a good visual idea of how much damage is caused by tornadoes of different strength on the Enhanced Fujita scale. The book discusses how tornadoes form, how the power generated by the mix of warm, humid and cold, dry air can cause violent storms to arise very quickly. It explains where tornado alley is and gives specific examples of incidents that actually happened during tornadoes. It also provides directions on how to stay as safe as possible when a tornado threatens. This book would be good to use during science class and before the class begins practicing for tornado drills. Because it emphasizes tornado safety it is especially helpful in schools at risk of tornadoes.

Chelsea says

If you want to learn about one of the world's natural disasters and work on reading comprehension, this is a good book to use. The Tornadoes! book gives great detail about how tornadoes are formed, how they are classified, and what to do to stay safe. The pictures are colorful and give great description even without the words. The book would be a key tool in science but it actually could have a lot of perks in literacy learning too. The book does have a lot to comprehend, so discussing vocabulary words, and learning to observe pictures and words together will help students have a better understanding of the information the author wanted to give them; leading into author's purpose and craft.

Jessica says

This was good during our nonfiction unit that I read it the next day to the students. We learned about the ratings and what to do if there is a tornado.

Whitney Scott says

This book is all about tornadoes. It informs the reader on what a tornado is, how it is formed, and what it is like. The scale in which tornadoes are measured along with the damage each size is capable of is described. Along with this, there is information about the record breaking tornadoes and the kind of damage they did. It also includes a section that tells what to do in the event on a tornado.

I thought this book was very informative and was presented in a way that was perfect for students. It got the information across about how disastrous tornadoes can be while not being too graphic. I like how illustrations were used rather than actual pictures because it makes it seem less frightening too the reader. I think I would use this in my classroom for higher level readers because a lot of the words and content are more complex and might be harder for a younger reader to understand.

Ashley says

I know this is a children's book but I learned a lot. I now have a much more firm grasp on how tornadoes are formed. We (myself and my 10 yo, 7 yo, and 4 yo) especially enjoyed the before/after of each type of EF class of tornado. I highly recommend this book for a weather unit or for curious children.

Brianna Smith says

Tornadoes by Gail Gibbons is a wonderfully illustrated informational picture book. She describe how tornadoes are formed, how they are classifies, where they most commonly appear, and most importantly what to do if you experience a tornadoes. Readers are introduced Tornadoes, the swirling, funnel-shaped clouds that when they make contact with the ground cause massive destruction. However, Tornadoes can be very destructive, readers learn most are classified as the least violent kind and last less than 10 minutes. Tornadoes by Gail Gibbons is a wow book because her writing not only includes interesting content, but wonderfully illustrations that allow readers to understand the content. I have always been a huge fan of Gail Gibbons. Tornadoes is one of her most recent books. This book is a wonderful nonfiction read aloud for K-6. It can used to model reading strategies such as main idea and summarizing. It is also a great informational text to use to explain science concepts, such as weather.

Seana Gneiting says

Tornadoes!

McKenzie Ryan says

"Tornadoes!" by Gail Gibbons; published by Holiday House; New York; copyright reprinted 2009

1. Awards the book has received: This book has not received any awards.
2. Appropriate grade level(s): This book is appropriate for first through fourth grade.
3. Summary: Readers learn all about tornadoes. Some facts include what a tornado is, how it is formed and what it is like to be in a tornado. In more detail the book goes into how tornadoes are measured and how damage size is calculated. The book concludes with the largest and most damaging tornadoes in history as well as what to do in the case of a tornado.

Review: I personally don't have much experiences with tornadoes due to where I live. This book provides enough information to understand the general gist of tornadoes themselves, I believe that children would have the same understanding. The cartoon images make this book more kid-friendly because children are used to reading books with cartoon images. While I was reading this I forgot I was even reading an informational text because of how nice the flow of this book is.

4. Uses in the classroom:

- Use during a unit on weather.
 - Make a mini tornado in a bottle so children can see it live (sort of).
 - For older children, have them graph a variety of measured tornadoes around the United States and write about their findings.
 - For younger children, have them draw something they learned about tornadoes in the book.
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MaryMargaret Kelly says

Information

I really enjoyed this book. Being from Minnesota we don't worry as much about tornadoes so we never learned too much about them. I thought this book was great. It gave great information and explained things in a way that younger students can understand. I thought it was well written and illustrated.

This book would be great to read for students in Kansas or any state that has a lot of tornadoes. This would be great for a read aloud and then put into centers for later reading on their own. If it was spring and the tornado sirens are starting, this book would be great to have students read and maybe do a project on tornadoes. It has great information and drawings about what tornadoes look like, how they form and what to do if one is coming. I think students would also like to learn from this book and be able to go home and tell their parents all the information they learned about because it's a great book for students to remember the facts.

I really enjoyed the illustrations of this book. They were in great detail and I think students would find them very interesting.

Nicole says

Awards:

Grade Level: K-2nd

Summary: Gibbons displays a large amount of information about all sorts of tornadoes including their

formation, signs of a tornado and other fun and interesting facts. The story goes into great detailing outlining how aspects like downdraft and updraft help in forming a tornado and where tornadoes are most commonly seen. The text provides the perfect backdrop on providing the information on how to best survive a hurricane as well.

Review: This story is an excellent place to start to build students' interest in topics like the weather or clouds. The story has a variety of advanced words that the teacher can explain and introduce to the class as the class continues to experiment with those various definitions. The book also provides awesome artwork illustrating the scientific principles at work.

2 Activities: This story can be used to introduce a theme of weather or clouds and be used to spark the interest.

This book can be used to introduce advanced vocabulary like updraft, downdraft, and cumulonimbus. That students later experiment with.

Taya Bower says

This book gives great detail as to what a tornado is and how it forms. It also goes into depth at the damages and dangers that come with tornadoes. This book has great illustrations for the children to be engaged and the wording is very child friendly. For these reasons I gave this book a 4 star rating.

Shelly says

My son's latest interest is wild/extreme weather. This book has good illustrations and does a good job at teaching preschoolers about tornadoes without making it scary or overwhelming/boring with too much text. He loves it.

Emily Garrison says

This book has amazing illustrations which show tornadoes and the weather that precedes them and follows them. The illustrations also show amazing depictions of cumulonimbus clouds which are the cloud type tornadoes come from. The book gives a definition for a tornado and then goes on in great detail about how tornadoes are formed and the types of damage they can leave behind. The reader can also learn about the Fujita Tornado Scale which measures the strength of a tornado based on wind speeds. The reader can also learn about a famous tornado named "The Great Tri-State Tornado" of 1925, its estimated wind speeds and the damage it caused. Lastly, the reader can learn about tornado safety and how to stay as safe as possible prior to, during and after a tornado.

Hope McCabe says

1. Awards: None
2. 1st—2nd grade
3. This informational text is all about tornadoes: what they are and how they are formed. Facts and intricate

illustrations are used in the book to explain how the tornadoes come about. Additionally, it explains how to classify them and what precautions to take if you are ever in danger of being near one.

4. This book is inviting and informative. The illustrations are very detailed and captivating. It is an informational text that children will love, especially those who are very interested in science and the weather.

5. In the classroom:

Teach can lead discussion and write on chart paper what tornadoes are, what they have, and what they can do.

Children can write down the proper precautions to take if they are ever near a tornado on a piece of gray construction paper shaped like a tornado.

With assistance by teacher/adults, children make their own mini tornadoes in a jar.
