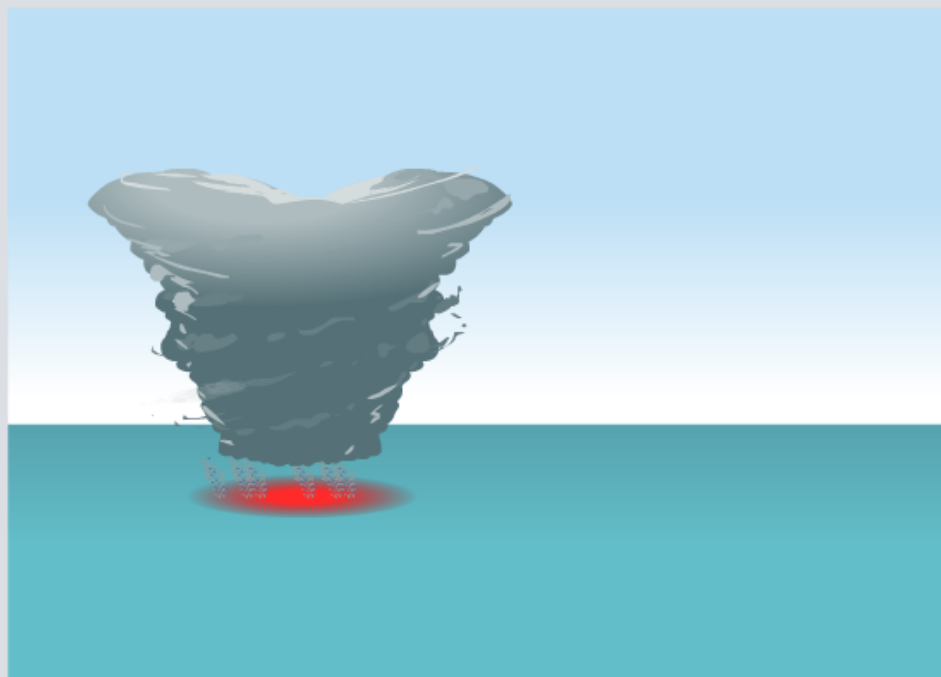


## Tropical Cyclones



# How do tropical cyclones form?

What happens when a tropical cyclone meets land?

# Tropical weather systems



# Measuring storms and cyclones

The magnitude of a tropical cyclone is measured using the **Saffir-Simpson** hurricane scale. The five levels are:

Category	Wind speed	Effects
1	119–153 km/h	No real damage.
2	154–177 km/h	Some building damage; coastal flooding.
3	178–209 km/h	Some structural damage; inland floods.
4	210–249 km/h	Extensive building failures; major erosion of beach areas; inland floods.
5	250+ km/h	Buildings blown away; massive flood damage; mass evacuation required.

Can you give an example of a category 4 or 5 cyclone?

# Tropical cyclone location



# Threats of tropical cyclones

What are the main threats from cyclones?

**Winds** exceeding 150km/h cause structural damage including damaged bridges, power lines and collapsed buildings.

**Heavy rain** (100+ mm/day) causes severe flooding and landslides.

**Storm surges** cause coastal flooding in low lying, unprotected areas. Waves are 'piled up' by strong winds and the ocean rises under the low air pressure of the cyclone.



# Factors affecting disasters

