EARTH NETWORKS

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK CONTEST LESSON PLANS

TEACHER
Amy Mallozzi

SCHOOL
New Orleans Charter Science and Mathematics High School

LOCATION
New Orleans, LA

BEST LESSON PLAN RUNNER UP 2018

INTRODUCTION TO MODELING: FLOOD RISK IN NEW ORLEANS

INTENDED STUDENTS
High schools students

DESCRIPTION
This lesson plan aims to predict the impact of real-life rainfall events in New Orleans by collecting data remotely and creating a model.

LESSON MATERIALS

- Computer
- Google Street View
- Page Ruler
- Spreadsheet software
- Word processor

LESSON INSTRUCTIONS

- Instruct students to measure the height of their house before class
- Use Google Street View to create a ratio comparing the real height of their house to computer pixels
- Break students into groups
- Research past storms, upcoming storms, the pump system, and building codes
- Assume the ground is level citywide and that 1 inch of rain equates to 1 inch of standing water
- Assign each group to a neighborhood and calculate average house height
- Groups create a report predicting rainfall scenarios assuming 100% pump failure

Great implementation of a lesson that teaches students how to assess flooding risk in an easily understood format.

Mark Hoekzema | Contest Judge