

A Carousel of Memories



Segment Three Run Time: 18:21

Overview

Bushkill Park took a number of fatal blows including the death of beloved owner Tom Long. This tragedy snowballed and threatened Long's famous carousels. Though the community attempted to raise funds to keep the attraction in tact, their efforts proved fruitless. Finally, a hurricane flooded the park.



While Bushkill Park faltered against these hardships, Dorney Park rose above a fire that enveloped Castle Garden. Ohio's Cedar Fair Company purchased the park and can be credited with Dorney's growth. Though video games, television, airplanes, and automobiles have led to a cultural shift away from amusement parks, Dorney Park still thrives as the fifth oldest park in the nation.

Spotlight: Hurricanes

Throughout the world, this natural disaster is known as a typhoon, a severe tropical cyclone, a severe cyclonic storm, or a tropical cyclone. Nonetheless, a hurricane is by definition "a severe tropical storm that forms in the North Atlantic Ocean, the Northeast Pacific Ocean east of the dateline, or the South Pacific Ocean east of 160°E. They require slight winds, a certain level of dampness, and heated tropical oceans in order for the storm to circle counterclockwise about the "eye" or center. With this effect, hurricanes cause damage with their massive waves known as "storm surges," extreme winds, rains, and they become even more dangerous on land. Hurricanes begin as tropical depressions then strengthen to a tropical storm before reaching hurricane level with sustained winds of 74 mph or greater.

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Discussion/Questions

1. Name three occurrences that negatively affected Bushkill Park.
2. List your top three ideal vacation spots. Discuss how technological advances in transportation and home entertainment have led to the demise of amusement parks. For example, through computer programs, a person can build his/her own amusement park. How has this affected engineers' need to keep up with people's need for adventure?

Activities

1. Write a short paragraph using facts from the movie with the theme "Dorney Park's perseverance in the face of adversity."
2. Ask a child and a grandparent about their views on amusement parks. Use a diagram to compare and contrast each.

Spotlight: Hurricanes (cont'd)

While approximately six hurricanes strike the Atlantic each year, only five in a three year span hit the region branching from Maine to Texas in the United States. They are also more likely to affect the Atlantic area from June 1 to November 30, and the Pacific area from May 15 to November 30.



More specifically, Hurricane Ivan was named a tropical storm on September 3, 2004 and transitioned to a full-fledged hurricane two days later. It was the ninth storm and the sixth hurricane of the year. Although it at one time reached a Category 5 on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale, it made landfall as a weaker Category 3. It caused 39 deaths and destroyed 85% of the structures on the island of Grenada on September 7. Over its reign, Ivan produced the largest ocean wave at 91 feet and the fastest seafloor current at 5 miles per hour. It was also given the title of third costliest hurricane to hit the United States, costing around \$13 billion dollars in damage.

Moreover, in September 2004, Hurricane Ivan tore through Easton's Bushkill Park, leaving a half-million dollar's worth of damage which only had \$100,000 in flood insurance. At the time, eight to ten feet of water bombarded the park and destroyed the carousel and bumper cars; a local favorite, "The Pretzel," was entirely demolished. Although community members pitched in to restore the 102 year-old park, their work put little more than a dent in the destruction. After three months time, the Fascination Station reopened for party use.

More information

Knott's Berry Farm 8039 Beach Boulevard Buena Park, CA 90620 (714) 220-5200 knotts.com

Worlds of Fun 4545 Worlds of Fun Avenue Kansas City, MO 64161 (816) 454-4545 worldsoffun.com

Geauga Lake & Wildwater Kingdom 1060 North Aurora Road Aurora, OH 44202 geaugalake.com

Academic Standards

A Carousel of Memories is specifically designed to address the Academic Standards for History as set forth by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This program supports the successful achievement of standards 8.3 United States History as defined under grade 12 measurement criteria: 8.2.12

B. Identify and evaluate primary documents, material artifacts and historic sites important in United States history from 1890 to Present

C. Identify and evaluate how continuity and change have influenced United States history from the 1890s to Present

