

Student Link

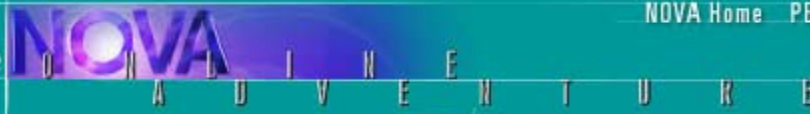
Lesson Activity for Grade 9

PAGE
A

(*Environment* : General)
Part III: El Nino's Reach

Student Name:

INSTRUCTIONS

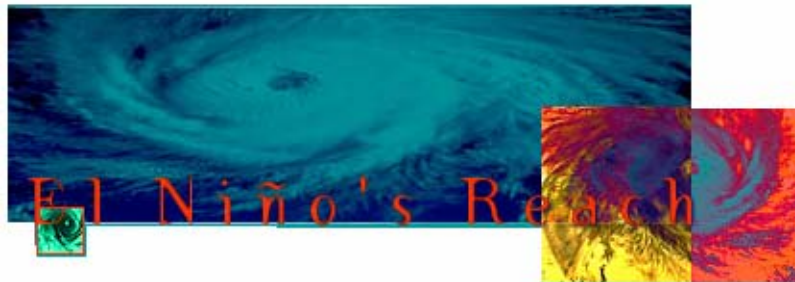


NOVA Home PBS Home



Now you've had a chance to understand what exactly El Nino is once you've completed Part I and you've looked at how scientists track and measure it in Part II. In this, Part III, we'll explore how El Nino has affected the environment around the globe, through time, and on living things.

1. Starting from the "**Grade 9**" StudentLink home page click on **Environment**".
2. Then click on "**El Nino (advanced)**" under the "**General**" column.
3. Once on the main El Nino page click on "**El Nino's Reach**" and then "**Across The Globe**" (a new Internet window will load).



Click on the world map to see what effects El Nino has had in different parts of the world. What affects has it had in the Canadian Arctic? Europe?

What kind of weather did scientists predict for the Northern US and Canada as a result of El Nino?

How severe was the Atlantic hurricane season? Why did scientists want to add Category 6 to Hurricane measurements?

Close "**Across the Globe**" when you're done reading through it and then click on "**Through Time**". El Nino didn't just happen in 1997, but has occurred throughout history.

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How do scientists use glaciers to track weather patterns?

How can trees tell us about weather that happened hundreds of years ago?

Who was the first to discover El Nino? What Pattern did he find?

Now go back to the "**El Nino's Reach**" page. Click on "**Into Living Things**". Read through the different methods that scientists track the weather patterns of El Nino. Start with Tree Ring Science and work your way down to Coral Reef Science. Answer the following questions:

Why can trees be considered a living record of history? Describe the process by which this record is created.

How are coral reefs and ice core samples used to tell scientists about historical weather patterns? In what ways are these two methods similar?

