Science Background Research: Katrina Case Study

Task 1: ***Making Connections***

Yesterday you read about the environmental and health impacts that followed Hurricane Katrina. Your next task is to begin making connections between what you've read and what you've already learned in science class this year.

Take out the article "**The Environmental Impacts of Hurricane Katrina**" by Larry West, published in www.ThoughtCo.com and respond to the prompts below:

Connection Question 1: *The author states in paragraph 2 that contaminated flood water could "devastate the region's biodiversity." What connections can you make to what you learned in science earlier this year about* ***biodiversity****, its importance, and the* ***interconnectedness*** *of organisms in an ecosystem?*

Connection Question 2: *In the second to last paragraph, the author writes that the United States Army Corps of Engineers has been working to "physically remove tons of contaminated sediment left behind by receding floodwaters." Use the science knowledge about* ***erosion*** *and* ***deposition*** *to explain what the engineers are doing and why.*

Take out the article "**New research reveals Hurricane Katrina's impact on ecological and human health**" by Wiley-Blackwell published in www.ScienceDaily.com, and respond to the prompts below:

In science this year you learned that all matter is made up of tiny little particles called atoms. You also learned that there are different types of atoms, which we call **elements**. This article talks about **chemical deposition** following Hurricane Katrina. Which **toxic elements** are being deposited with sediments?

Task 2: ***Lead and the Human Body***

One of the pollutants from the Katrina storm was lead.

Study the image from Tech Insider provided in this article, "Here's how lead is poisoning American Children" by Julia Calderone and Skye Gould in Business Insider, and in the boxes below summarize ***four*** *ways that lead poisoning can impact the human body:*

Task 3: ***Deepening Your Understanding of the Human Body***

*In the notes on the previous page you provided examples of ways that lead poisoning can impact different **body systems**. In order to fully understand how lead impacts how our bodies, it is helpful to know how different body systems are supposed to work normally.*

*On Google Classroom you should see two videos posted from the Scholastic Study Jams collection, one about the **Nervous System** and one about the **Circulatory System**. Choose **one video** to watch to build your background knowledge about how the human body works.*

Name of Body System:_____

Film Notes:

Connecting Back to Lead Poisoning:
Looking back at the image on page 3, how does lead change how this body system functions?