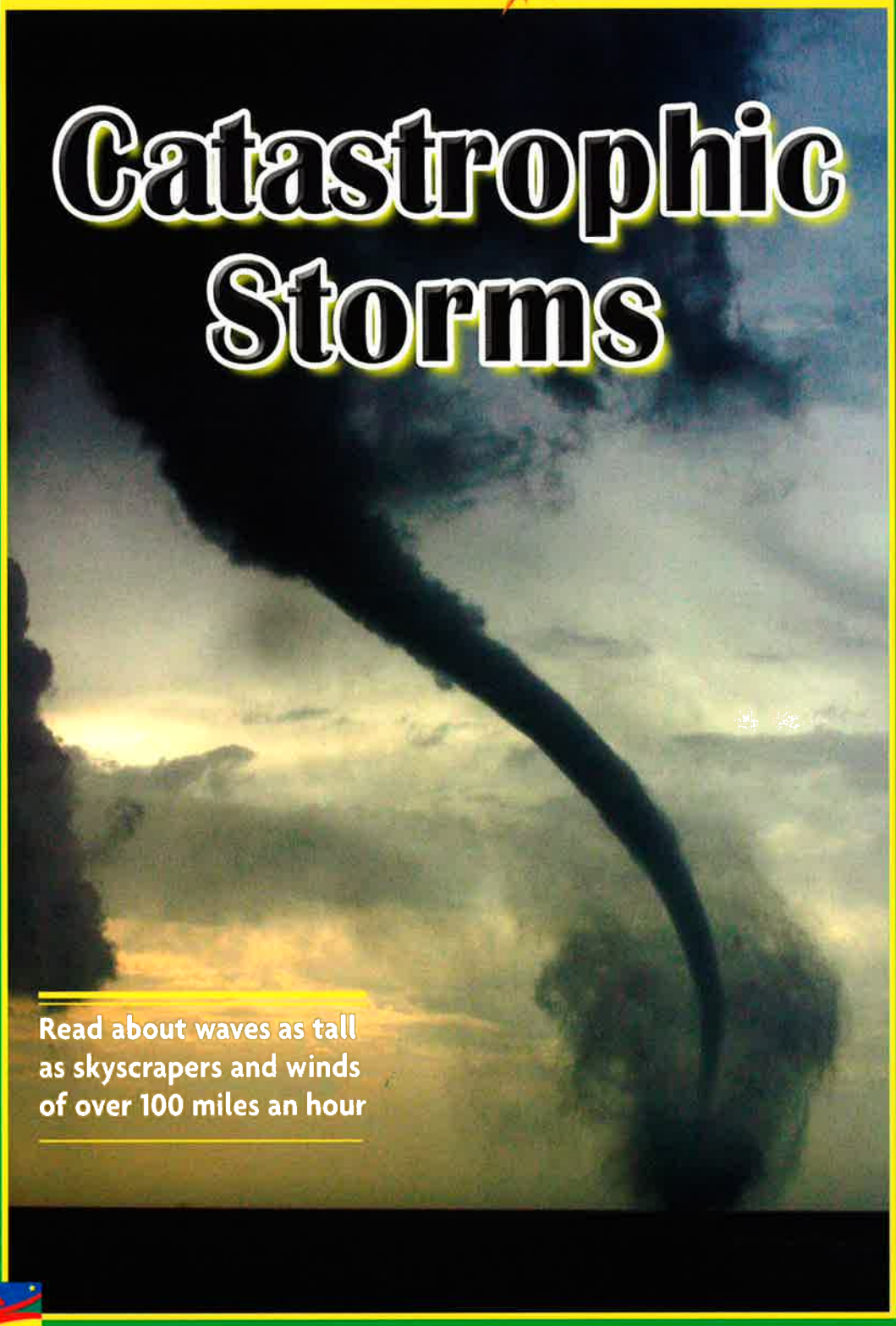
BRIDGES™

Catastrophic Storms



Read about waves as tall as skyscrapers and winds of over 100 miles an hour

MICHAEL SANDLER

Benchmark EDUCATION



SCIENCE AND MATH
Water and Weather
Level 34 O

For teachers' inspection ONLY

READING

Comprehension Skill:

Evaluate Author's Purpose and Point of View

As you read, try to figure out why the author wrote the book or used certain information such as photographs, captions, and sidebars. Also try to figure out what the author thinks about the book's topic.

Phonics/Word Study:

Compound Words

As you read, look for compound words like **mudslides**. Compound words are made of two words put together with or without a hyphen.

Look for these text and graphic features.

Text Features

- Table of contents
- Introduction
- Sidebars
- Conclusion
- Glossary
- Index
- Information about the author
- Vocabulary words in boldfaced type
- Captions for photos, diagrams, and illustrations
- Checkpoints. Check yourself to see that you understand what you have read. Page 21

Graphic Features

- Photographs
- Labeled Diagrams. Pages 6, 8, 16, 24
- Map. Pages 5, 15, 20
- Table. Pages 9, 13, 17, 23, 28
- Bar Graph. Page 18

SCIENCE

The Big Idea:

This book describes three types of catastrophic storms caused by nature. It explains how they develop and the impact they have on human lives.

Look for these special information features.

Content Sidebars

- It's a Fact. Interesting facts about catastrophic storms. Pages 4, 9, 12, 15
- Solve This. Solve these math problems to learn more about catastrophic storms. Pages 7, 13, 18, 21, 23
- Everyday Science. See how science is part of your daily life. Page 22
- Careers in Science. Learn about jobs for people interested in catastrophic storms. Page 27

Content Vocabulary

atmosphere
blizzard
catastrophic
coastal area
frostbite
hurricane
meteorologist
storm surge
tornado
whiteout
wind chill

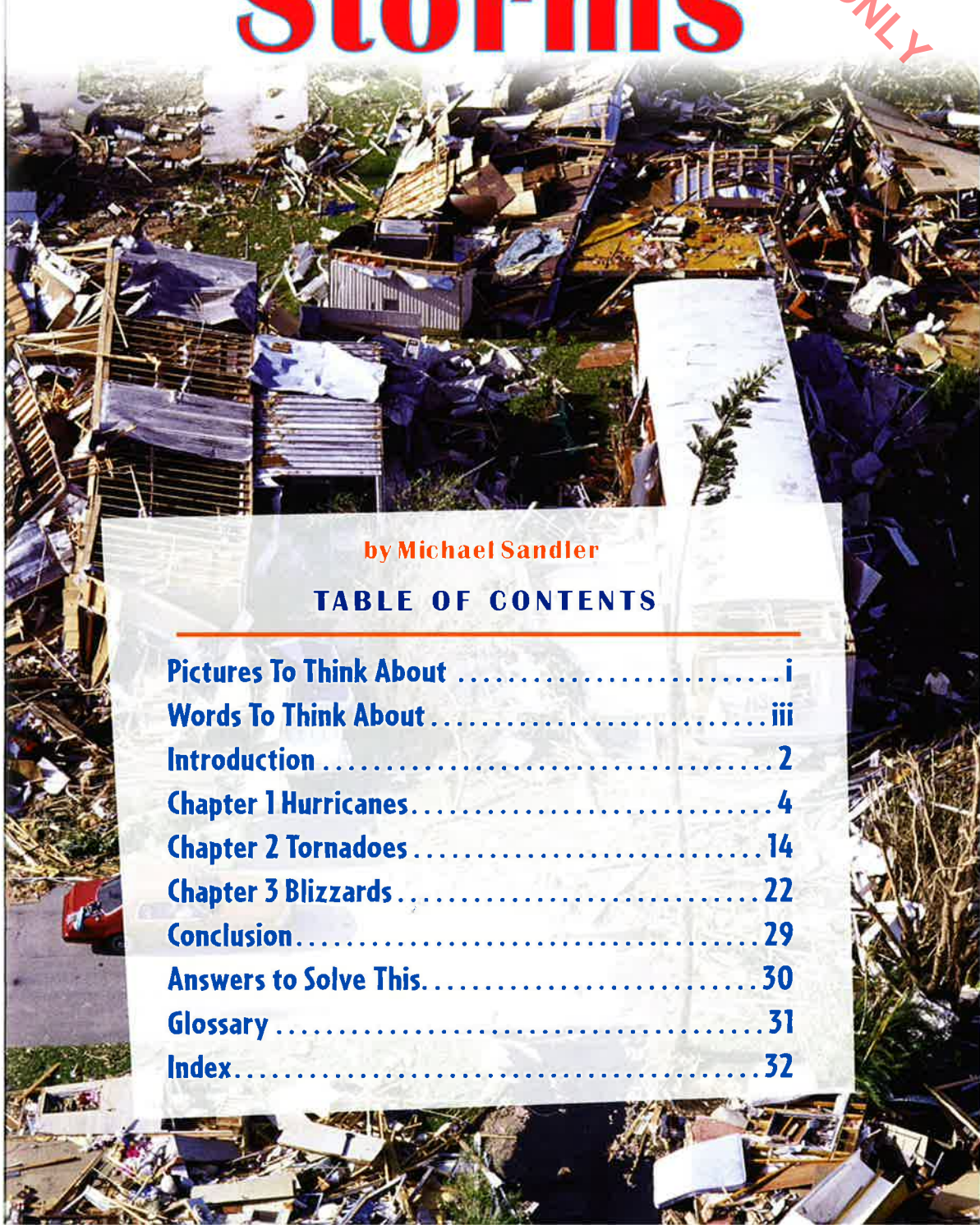
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by Michael Sandler

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Pictures To Think About

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Words To Think About

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Characteristics

- destroys homes
- harms people
- ?

catastrophic storm

What do you think the words **catastrophic storm** mean?

Examples

- hurricane
- tornado
- ?

atmosphere

What do you think the word **atmosphere** means?

- **Latin:** atmos (vapor or gas)
- **Latin:** sphaera (sphere or ball)

Read for More Clues
atmosphere, page 7
catastrophic storm, page 2
meteorologist, page 3

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meteorologist

What do you think the word **meteorologist** means?

Who is a **meteorologist**?

- scientist
- ?
- weather reporter

What does a **meteorologist** do?

- studies storms
- ?
- predicts weather



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Introduction

Storms happen all the time. Storms can ruin a picnic. They can wash out a baseball game. Usually storms bring wind, rain, or snow. Most storms do little damage. **Catastrophic** (kat-uh-STRAWF-ic) storms are different. Catastrophic storms can do a lot of damage. They can shut down roads, trains, and airports. They can destroy homes. They can lift boats out of the ocean. Worst of all, these storms can kill people.

Catastrophic storms come in three types. The first type is a **hurricane** (HUHR-ih-kayn). A hurricane is a mix of heavy wind and rain. Hurricanes begin at sea. If they hit land, they can do a lot of harm.

