

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

More Than an Island in the Sun



- KidsPost Quiz: “Facts you might not know about Puerto Rico”
- KidsPost Reprint: “Long school break is no vacation for Puerto Rico’s kids”
- Role Play: Hurricanes, Floods, No Electricity — What You’d Do
- Word Find: From Atoll to War
- Crossword Puzzle: Commonwealth, Compact and Other Associations
- Answer Keys: Word Find and Crossword Puzzle

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

When hurricanes hit several U.S. states and Caribbean islands in 2017, questions were raised about federal response to the severe damage. Many Americans are surprised to learn that the residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico are U.S. citizens with rights and expectations. Homes, offices, businesses and power stations were devastated by winds and flooding. Lush vegetation was decimated and roads obstructed and gouged.

ISLAND ANSWERS

Material in this resource guide introduces students to Puerto Rico and the impact of the hurricane on children and others. A role play asks students to identify the different stakeholders and the perspectives they might hold when children have no school. Who bears responsibility and what is to be done when these U.S. schools are destroyed or damaged, used for community centers and housing for those who no longer have homes?

The word find and crossword puzzle are built on terms associated with American territories and possessions. These may be used for discussion and with the articles in Getting to Know Them, another November resource guide. This guide provides examples of places that are more than islands in the sun.

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

KidsPost

Facts you might not know about Puerto Rico

The U.S. territory has been in the news because of Hurricane Maria, so how much do you know about Puerto Rico?



HECTOR RETAMAL/GETTY IMAGES

1. In what year did Puerto Rico become a U.S. territory?
- | | |
|---------|---------|
| a. 1888 | c. 1898 |
| b. 1900 | d. 1919 |



RICKY CARIOT/THE WASHINGTON POST

2. Puerto Rico is home to one of these natural features — the only one found in the United States.
- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| a. Tropical rain forest | c. Jungle |
| b. Tundra | d. Geyser |



BRENNAN LINSLEY/ASSOCIATED PRESS

3. Until 2016, Arecibo Observatory was home to the world's largest one of these scientific instruments.
- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| a. Binoculars | c. Globe |
| b. Radio telescope | d. Optical telescope |



EVY MAGES/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

4. Puerto Rico and Washington, D.C., share what similar political cause?
- | |
|---|
| a. Earning a presence in Congress |
| b. Combining into one state |
| c. Independence from the United States |
| d. Acceptance into the United States as a state |



ERIN WILLIAMS/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

5. What does the name Puerto Rico translate to in English?
- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| a. Part of Rico | c. Capital of the Caribbean |
| b. Rich port | d. Central port |

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

KidsPost

Long school break is no vacation for Puerto Rico's kids

Devastation from Hurricane Maria has closed schools, and children want to go back.

The novelty of an extended school break has worn off for many kids in Puerto Rico, where classes have been canceled since Hurricane Maria swept across the island last month.

Alanys Arroyo and her little brothers have been cooped up in a school that has been turned into a shelter for those whose homes were destroyed September 20 in the storm.

Alanys, 15, reads and helps her mother clean up. The boys kick around a soccer ball. They are bored.

"The days are long," Alanys said as she washed the family's few clothes in a garbage pail. "I miss studying."

It's not any easier on her mother, Yahaira Lugo, who has started to despair about how to keep her four children occupied. "What do I do with them all day?" she said. "There's nothing. No TV. No Internet. Our books are gone, and there's no place to go."

The storm caused at least 48 deaths and knocked out the power for the island of 3.4 million people.

All 1,113 public schools are closed, although 167 are serving as community centers and 99 others are being used as shelters. About 70 schools are too damaged to reopen.



CARLOS GIUSTI/AP

Youths chat at Puerto Rico's Ramon Marin Sola Elementary School, which is temporarily serving as a community center. Schools in the U.S. territory have been closed since Hurricane Maria swept through September 20.

Some schools are set to hold classes Monday, but the entire system will reopen no sooner than October 30.

Alanys's 9-year-old brother, Nataniel, said it feels weird to be staying at a school but not going to class.

"I didn't know I liked school that much until I couldn't go," he said.

In darkened classrooms at the Ramon Marin Sola Elementary School, as rain poured down outside, fourth-graders played Connect Four and Parcheesi.

Others worked on a Hurricane Maria journal, writing about what they bought before the storm and what they lost, and what they hope for their homes.

"We're trying teach them how to be happy again," said school director Zoraya Cruz. "We're not worried about the curriculum right now. We want them to feel comfortable and safe."

Many students and young people left for the United States mainland, although the exact number is not

ROLE PLAY

Hurricanes, Floods, No Electricity — What You'd Do

Read “Long school break is no vacation for Puerto Rico’s kids.” This October 18, 2017, article focuses on the children of Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria hit the island.

Impact of Weather

1. Why have students in Puerto Rico been unable to attend school?
2. Where have people who lost their homes been living?
3. In what activities do children engage since they cannot attend school?

The Public Schools

4. There are 1,113 public schools on Puerto Rico.
 - a. What percent of public schools are open?
 - b. What percent serve as community centers?
 - c. What percent serve as shelters?
 - d. What percent of schools will not reopen?
 - e. Create a graphic to relate the public school situation.
5. What are school officials doing while waiting for classes to resume?

Stakeholders

6. A stakeholder is an individual or group or business with an interest in something. Who are the stakeholders in the education of Puerto Rico’s children?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
 - f.
 - g.
 - h.
 - i.
 - j.
7. After class discussion, assume the role of one of the stakeholders. Some of the issues you need to address are listed. Be sure to keep your stakeholder’s point of view.
 - a. Why do you want children to be back in school?
 - b. What has priority in getting repaired, cleaned and functioning — government offices, businesses, homes or schools?
 - c. After schools have been repaired and cleaned, how can students return to the classroom if electricity has not reached your municipality?
 - d. What should be done with families who are using your school for shelter or as a community center?
 - e. If teachers and families cannot get into their homes, what can be done?
 - f. What five items do you want the U.S. Department of Education to provide?

From Atoll to War

American Samoa and Guam are U.S. territories. There are many more U.S. possessions. Find the 21 names of U.S. territories and possessions as well as terms associated with them in the grid. The words will be found reading right to left, left to right, up and down and on the diagonal.

G	U	A	M	M	S	A	M	O	A	E	Y	I
U	L	T	L	M	O	L	I	R	K	R	R	S
A	A	O	E	A	C	E	D	A	R	E	O	L
N	O	L	U	R	I	L	W	O	K	E	T	A
O	H	L	F	I	R	F	A	T	W	F	I	N
S	S	H	P	A	L	M	Y	R	A	A	R	D
H	A	V	E	N	E	V	A	E	O	P	R	D
I	I	A	W	A	H	I	R	U	A	C	E	C
P	A	L	U	A	L	A	P	P	I	R	T	T

1. Here is a list of the words and names you are to find.

- | | | |
|--------|---------|-----------|
| Atoll | Island | Rico |
| Coral | Mariana | Samoa |
| Fuel | Midway | Shoal |
| Guam | Palau | Territory |
| Guano | Palmyra | VI |
| Haven | Puerto | Wake |
| Hawaii | Reef | War |

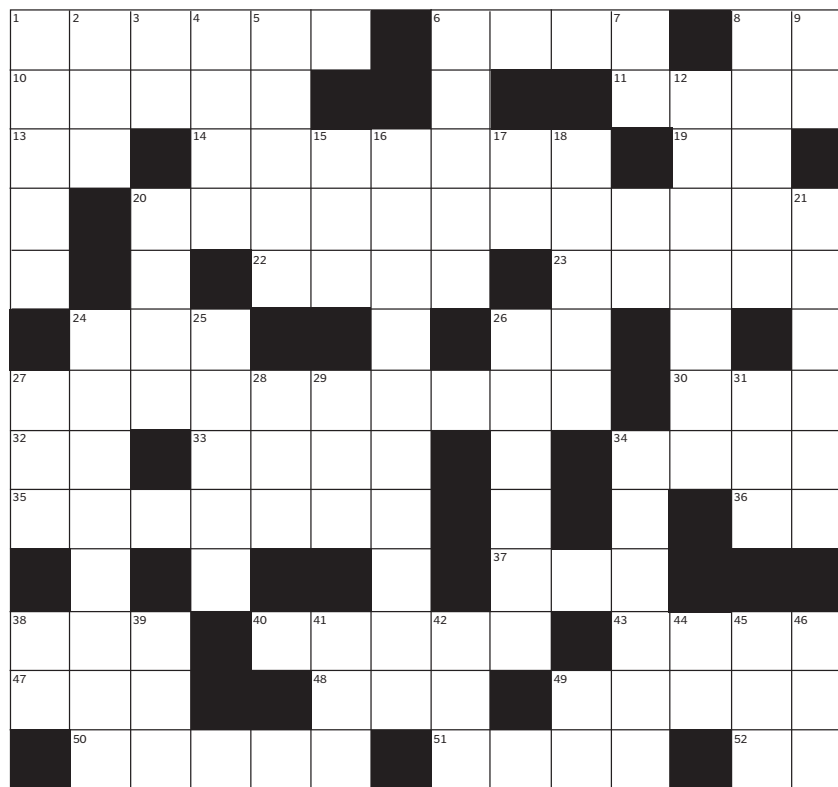
2. Did you find any additional words? List them.

3. Use three to five of the words in a paragraph.

Commonwealth, Compact and Other Associations

ACROSS

1. Port in Spain
6. U.S. territory in Pacific Ocean with important military bases
8. Times 3, hear Santa
10. On the move, awake
11. October birthstone
13. City of angels
14. Diplomatic agreement of responsibility
19. Artificial Intelligence, briefly
20. Form of government; parties unite for common objectives
22. Money used in Mexico
23. Stock-footage app
24. Drop the _____
26. Virgin Islands, briefly
27. Group of Pacific islands in a Compact of Free Association with U.S.
30. Long, narrow inlet of a river
32. Old Saxon, briefly noted
33. Is in debt to
34. Second-largest Hawaiian island
35. Pieces of land surrounded by water
36. State with an upper peninsula, briefly
37. A conjunction
38. Department of State, briefly
40. Ring-shaped coral reef (or a string of them) surrounding a lagoon
43. WWII island battle site
47. Only
48. Essential for the synthesis of proteins; nucleic acid
49. Refuge
50. American territory that began as a coal station for ships
51. Cautious, especially about possible danger
52. Three feet, briefly



DOWN

1. Pacific island, in Compact of Free Association with U.S.
2. Briefly, one of three North American countries
3. Extraterrestrial, abbrev.
4. Rich in Spain
5. Walk heavily
6. Bird excrement, used as fertilizer
7. Briefly, modus operandi
8. Hispaniola country
9. On the Internet, acronym
12. Atoll that is a U.S. National Wildlife Refuge
15. Mrs. in France
16. Item of property, land belonging to someone
17. Civil War, briefly
18. Tapeworm, bandlike structure
20. Stylish, fashionable
21. Former kingdom, 50th state
24. Important assignments; goals or aims
25. Zagreb native
26. Picture, film or display used to illustrate
27. Answer to "Who is there?" in France.
28. Have
29. National Endowment for Democracy, acronym
31. Suffix indicating metallic element or biological structure
34. Atoll where June 1942 decisive battle was fought
38. Act
39. Salt water that covers most of the earth's surface
41. ___ la la
42. Principles, statutes and regulations forming rule of conduct
44. Audio-Visual, briefly
45. Device to open locks
46. Finish

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

Answer Keys: Word Find and Crossword Puzzle

G	U	A	M	M	S	A	M	O	A	E	Y	I
U	L	T	L	M	O	L	I	R	K	R	R	S
A	A	O	E	A	C	E	D	A	R	E	O	L
N	O	L	U	R	I	L	W	O	K	E	T	A
O	H	L	F	I	R	F	A	T	W	F	I	N
S	S	H	P	A	L	M	Y	R	A	A	R	D
H	A	V	E	N	E	V	A	E	O	P	R	D
I	I	A	W	A	H	I	R	U	A	C	E	C
P	A	L	U	A	L	A	P	P	I	R	T	T

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9					
P	U	E	R	T	O	G	U	A	M	H	O		
10	A	S	T	I	R	U	O	P	A	L			
13	L	A	C	O	M	P	A	C	T	A	I		
14	A	C	O	M	M	O	N	W	E	A	L	T	H
15	U	H	P	E	S	O	N	I	M	I	A		
16	M	I	C	S	V	I	Y	W					
17	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
M	I	C	R	O	N	E	S	I	A	R	I	A	
32	O	S	O	W	E	S	S	M	A	U	I		
33	34	35	36										
I	S	L	A	N	D	S	U	I	M	I			
37	I	T	I	A	N	D							
38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46					
D	O	S	A	T	O	L	L	W	A	K	E		
47	48	49											
O	N	E	R	N	A	H	A	V	E	N			
50	51	52											
S	A	M	O	A	W	A	R	Y	Y	D			