



Dan Chavas

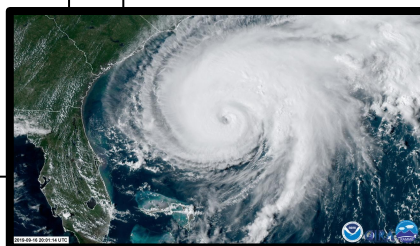
Fearing severe weather as a child motivated Dan Chavas to pursue a career as an atmospheric scientist. Purdue University Assistant Professor of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences, Dan Chavas, researches severe weather, tornadoes, hurricanes and works on answering such questions as why do we have close to 100 hurricanes per year (globally) instead of 10 or even 1,000 hurricanes? Dan uses climate models to study weather, and why Eastern North America is such a hotspot for severe thunderstorms and tornadoes on Earth. Dan has done studied/researched research at Purdue University, Princeton University, MIT, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dan says "I believe science requires imagination. I find a lot of inspiration from creative people and things outside of science"

Puzzle of the Week

1. They study how _____ effects hurricanes and helping us prepare for the future.
2. It's like predicting future crimes based on _____, but for weather!
3. By understanding how hurricanes work, we can better predict and even _____ their impact.
4. Studying climate change's influence is like _____ our cities against weather villains!
5. They are using _____ to unravel nature's mysteries and protect our future!

Hurricane Scientist

Picture giant, swirling storms like hurricanes as complex puzzles. That's the daily life of atmospheric scientists! They're like detectives, piecing together clues from satellites, radar, and even venturing into the storm's eye on research planes. Imagine them as data detectives, analyzing mountains of information on temperature, wind speed, and ocean currents, searching for patterns that reveal how the storm formed and behaves. Think of it like examining fingerprints at a crime scene, but for weather! Then, they become modeling masters, building computer simulations to predict the hurricane's path and strength. It's like creating a virtual hurricane in a lab, testing different scenarios to understand what makes it tick. Some even become storm chasers (but way cooler!), flying directly into the storm to collect super-detailed data right in the eye. Talk about taking research to the next level! But their work goes beyond the immediate storm. They're also climate champions, studying how climate change effects hurricanes and helping us prepare for the future. Think of it like predicting future crimes based on past patterns, but for weather! All this research helps us in three ways: first, it allows us to predict hurricanes more accurately, giving precious time for communities to prepare and save lives. Second, by understanding how hurricanes work, we can better predict and even mitigate their impact. It's like understanding a criminal's motives to prevent future crimes. Finally, by studying climate change's influence, they help us build stronger communities that can withstand future storms, like future-proofing our cities against weather villains! So, the next time you hear about a hurricane, remember the dedicated scientists working tirelessly to keep us safe. They're the ultimate storm detectives, using science to unravel nature's mysteries and protect our future!



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