Colorado Flood
High School Hazard Lesson

https://cires.colorado.edu/outreach/
Setting the Stage

Flood debris after the 2013 Boulder flood. Photo Credit: AlmanacManiac, Wikimedia.

https://cires.colorado.edu/outreach/
Driving Question:
What can we learn from past flooding events to help us prepare for future floods?

What You Will Be Doing:
● Analyze flood data to identify patterns of flood history and risk in Colorado.
● Communicate information about historic causes and effects of floods in your community. Explain what community members should do to be safe in the event of a flood.
### Part 1
What do you know about floods in Colorado?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KWL Chart</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What I Know</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>What I Wonder</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>What I Learned</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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(Activity 3)
What do you know about floods in Colorado?

Watch: 1976: Deadly Big Thompson flood devastates Colorado
What do you know about floods in Colorado?

Watch: Dramatic images show devastating flooding in Colorado

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**What do you know about floods in Colorado?**

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[https://cires.colorado.edu/outreach/](https://cires.colorado.edu/outreach/)
Flood Expert Interview

Watch: Flood Expert Video, STOP @ 2:24
Part 2
Flood Data Analysis Jigsaw

Group 1

Group 2

Group 3

Group 4

Group 5

https://cires.colorado.edu/outreach/
All Groups: Community Flood Risk GIS Activity

The 100-Year Flood is not what you think it is

Watch: The 100 Year Flood Is Not What You Think It Is (Maybe), STOP @ 3:22

https://cires.colorado.edu/outreach/
All Groups: Community Flood Risk GIS Activity

Explore: ArcGIS Floodplain Map

https://cires.colorado.edu/outreach/
Part 3: Finish Flood Expert Interview

Watch: [Flood Expert Video](https://cires.colorado.edu/outreach/), START @ 2:24
Flood Letter to the Editor

Assignment: Write a persuasive letter to the editor that explains current flood risk in your community. The letter should be 500-600 words and include:

- Address the letter “Dear Editor,”
- The first sentence should introduce the topic, and explain why readers should be concerned about flooding in your community
- The types of floods your community is vulnerable to
- A summary of historic floods
- How flood frequency and severity is expected to change in the future
- What time of year floods occur
- What areas in your community are most vulnerable to flooding
- Whether adequate technology is in place in the city to mitigate flood risk

Letters to the editor are typically brief (500-600 words), so write with brevity and clarity.