

Seriously powerful weather satellite put into space

23rd November, 2016



The USA has put into space the world's most advanced and powerful weather satellite. Scientists say it will revolutionize how we predict the weather and how we look at weather events. The National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) said its \$1 billion Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES-R) will take weather photographs five times faster than other satellites, and with four times higher image quality. The NOAA said: "Without a doubt, GOES-R will revolutionize weather forecasting as we know it." A weather forecaster said the difference in the speed and quality of the satellite's images is like the difference between old black and white TV pictures and today's HD televisions.

The new satellite will give us powerful, real-time images and information. These will make the world a safer place. Airline pilots will receive better data to stay away from turbulence. The satellite will be able to zoom in on severe weather events to get much more detailed and accurate pictures. This will help emergency services to warn people more quickly and reduce the costs to human life and property. People will have better information about hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, volcanic ash clouds, and wildfires. A scientist at the NOAA said: "It will give the weather as it's looking now rather than the weather that happened 15 to 30 minutes ago." The NOAA said weather forecasters couldn't wait to use it.

Sources: spaceflightnow.com / cbsnews.com / bbc.com

Writing

Weather forecasts are more important than financial markets forecasts. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

advanced / powerful / predict / environmental / image / quality / difference / HD TV / real-time information / pilots / turbulence / accurate / property / flooding / hurricanes

True / False

- Scientists say the satellite will cause a revolution in space. T / F
- The satellite cost a billion dollars. T / F
- The satellite can take photos ten times faster than other satellites. T / F
- The pictures from the satellite are like those from black and white TVs. T / F
- The satellite will give us real-time photos of the weather. T / F
- The satellite will help airplanes to avoid turbulence. T / F
- We will not have to rely on weather information that is 15 minutes old. T / F
- Weather forecasters will wait patiently to use the satellite. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. advanced | a. lower |
| 2. revolutionize | b. picture |
| 3. quality | c. occurred |
| 4. image | d. gap |
| 5. difference | e. modern |
| 6. receive | f. rough air |
| 7. turbulence | g. excellence |
| 8. reduce | h. buildings |
| 9. property | i. get |
| 10. happened | j. transform |

Discussion – Student A

- Do you have a favourite weather forecaster?
- How useful are weather apps?
- What do you think of air turbulence in airplanes?
- How can people better survive a hurricane?
- What can people do to keep safe during floods?
- What do you think of photos of weather events?
- What does a weather forecaster do all day?
- What questions would you like to ask the scientists?

BreakingNewsEnglish - The Mini Lesson

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. it will revolutionize how we | a. turbulence |
| 2. weather | b. TV pictures |
| 3. four times higher image | c. doubt |
| 4. Without a | d. time images |
| 5. old black and white | e. services |
| 6. give us powerful, real- | f. events |
| 7. stay away from | g. in |
| 8. The satellite will be able to zoom | h. predict the weather |
| 9. emergency | i. to use it |
| 10. forecasters couldn't wait | j. quality |

Discussion – Student B

- What's your favourite weather, and why?
- What weather do you hate the most?
- How is the world's weather changing?
- How important are weather forecasts to you?
- What do you think about what you read?
- How do you think the new satellite will change our life?
- What has the weather been like recently?
- What's the worst weather you've ever known?

Spelling

- denaadcv and powerful weather satellite
- how we reitdpc the weather
- \$1 binlilo
- Without a dutbo
- four times higher igeam quality
- the edferfcnie in the speed and quality
- Airline tlospi
- stay away from rtuebecInu
- vseere weather events
- more detailed and ctaarecu pictures
- the costs to human life and ptreopyr
- hurricanes, tornadoes, lgdifoon...

Answers – Synonym Match

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. e | 2. j | 3. g | 4. b | 5. d |
| 6. i | 7. f | 8. a | 9. h | 10. c |

Role Play

Role A – Hurricanes

You think hurricanes are the most dangerous weather events. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their weather events aren't so dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the least dangerous of these (and why): heat waves, floods or wildfires.

Role B – Heat Waves

You think heat waves are the most dangerous weather events. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their weather events aren't so dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the least dangerous of these (and why): hurricanes, floods or wildfires.

Role C – Floods

You think floods are the most dangerous weather events. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their weather events aren't so dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the least dangerous of these (and why): heat waves, hurricanes or wildfires.

Role D – Wildfires

You think wildfires are the most dangerous weather events. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their weather events aren't so dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the least dangerous of these (and why): heat waves, floods or hurricanes.

Speaking – Weather Events

Rank these with your partner. Put the most dangerous at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| • hurricane | • landslide |
| • blizzard | • drought |
| • heat wave | • dust storm |
| • flood | • wildfires |

Answers – True False

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a | F | b | T | c | F | d | F | e | T | f | T | g | T | h | F |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.