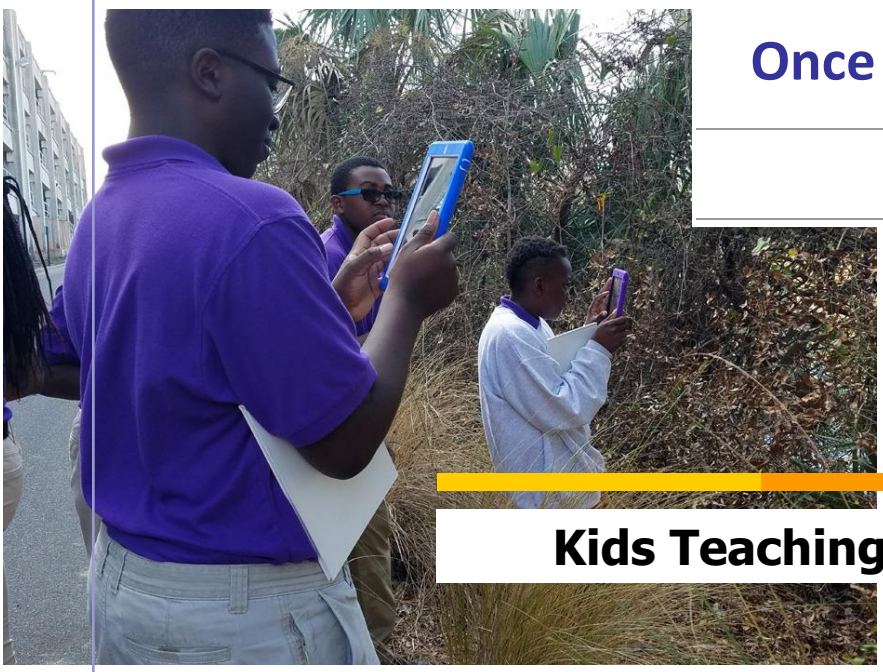


Once Upon a Flooding Place

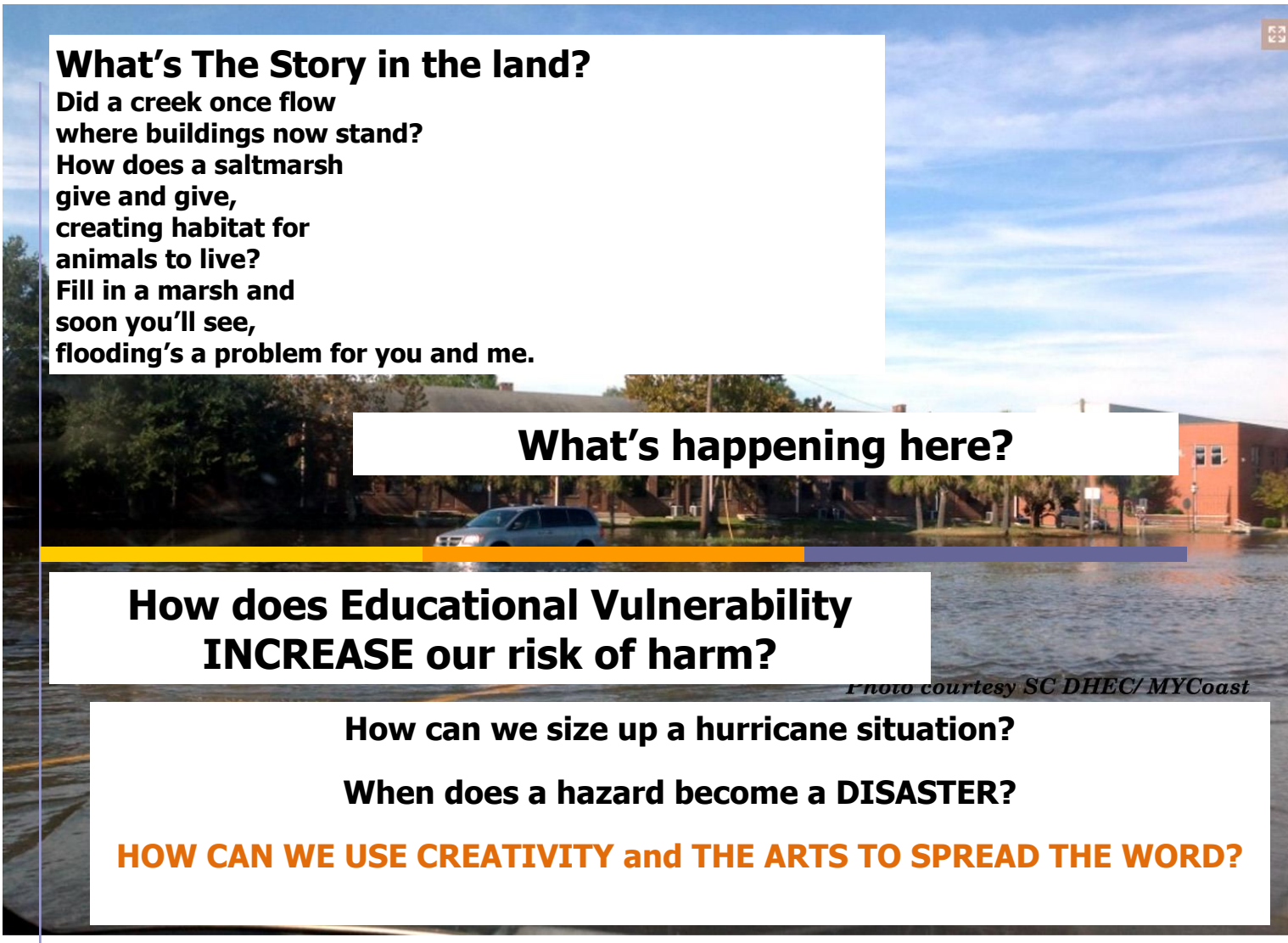
Storying Resilience

Kids Teaching Flood Resilience

Developed by Dr. Merrie Koester of Charleston, SC, Kids Teaching Flood Resilience (KTFR) is a capacity building, culturally responsive outreach, that affords youth opportunities to become environmentally literate citizens, capable of employing evidence-based thinking, place-based analysis, model-based inquiry, and creative arts to document and communicate flood and hurricane hazard risk, as well as what to **NOTICE, KNOW, and DO** *before* a hurricane strikes. The program has been developed in Lowcountry middle and high schools with a robust network of Thought Leaders. The work is grounded in the claim that our youth can and should be positioned and empowered as vital resources for family and community flood and hurricane resilience. In short, they are not "just kids"! They are protagonists in stories where their voices truly matter.

Recognized as a NOAA Weather Ready Nation Ambassador Program of Excellence, KTFR, in collaboration with the SC Sea Grant Consortium, the Near Center for Climate Studies at the Citadel and the Citadel STEM Center, has now been funded by the NOAA National Disaster Preparedness Program to develop materials and methods that can be scaled and sustained in other coastal communities, especially those that are historically underrepresented.

KTFR is aligned with the United Nation's 1996 Habitat Agenda's on the Rights of the Child , which calls for participatory processes with youth to create better conditions in cities and towns, especially when it comes to disaster planning and management. Finally, KTFR is grounded in best practices for achieving effective public science communication and place-based learning. engagement, as well as standards-based science teaching.



What's The Story in the land?

Did a creek once flow
where buildings now stand?
How does a saltmarsh
give and give,
creating habitat for
animals to live?
Fill in a marsh and
soon you'll see,
flooding's a problem for you and me.

What's happening here?

How does Educational Vulnerability INCREASE our risk of harm?

Photo courtesy SC DHEC/ MYCoast

How can we size up a hurricane situation?

When does a hazard become a DISASTER?

HOW CAN WE USE CREATIVITY and THE ARTS TO SPREAD THE WORD?

Objectives

- Build upon existing strengths and community partnerships.
- Challenge students to employ scientific methods for data collection and analysis that generate findings that could benefit their own communities.
- Create pathways for participating youth to add value to their personal lives through the development of potentially life-saving science knowledge, creative competencies, educational resilience, and college/career-building skills.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Merrie Koester, Ph.D.
Science Literacy and Arts Integration Curriculum Specialist/ Director, Kids Teaching Flood Resilience
University of SC Center for Science Education
merriekoester@comcast.net