

## Bongo Bingo: Causes of Floods

**Directions:** Answer each true or false question below.

### Questions

1. True or False: Unlike landslides, earthquakes are not a major cause of floods.
2. True or False: Storm surge occurs when unusually high winds blow water over the land.
3. True or False: Impervious surfaces are those that decrease urban runoff.
4. True or False: Runoff in urban areas can be five times what it is in undeveloped areas.
5. True or False: Urban runoff is big contributing factor to floods, and can lead to quick flooding in urban areas.
6. True or False: Storms, like hurricanes, cause floods when they bring more rain than normal to an area.
7. True or False: Several "normal" rainstorms can still cause floods if they occur over just a short period of time.
8. True or False: Since dams are made to control floods, they are never a cause of floods.
9. True or False: Landslides involve the movement of soil and rock and are not associated with floods.

## Answers

1. False

Feedback: Earthquakes can be a cause of floods when they trigger tsunamis or when they lead to soil liquefaction and ground failure.

2. True

Feedback: Storm surge occurs when large amounts of water are pushed over the land by high winds during a storm.

3. False

Feedback: Impervious surfaces, like parking lots and sidewalks, decrease water infiltration, increase runoff, and thus increase floods.

4. True

Feedback: Runoff can be up to five times more in urban areas because of impervious surfaces. This increases the risk of floods.

5. True

Feedback: Urban runoff is a major contributing factor to floods because it increases the amount of water that quickly runs over the land.

6. True

Feedback: Heavy rains can lead to floods because streams cannot hold the unusually high amounts of water.

7. True

Feedback: Several storms back to back can cause floods because too much rain in a short period of time can overwhelm local streams.

8. False

Feedback: Dams can cause floods if they break during a storm or if they experience construction failure.

9. False

Feedback: Landslides can be a major cause of floods, especially when they obstruct rivers and disrupt their normal flow.