III. Gather Data

A. The First Tornado Forecast

- Click on the "Golden Anniversary" site.
- Scroll down to "Historical Events" and click on "Description of Historical Events."

- Scroll down to "March 20, 1948."
- Read the information and answer the following questions.

1. What happened at 10 p.m. on March 20, 1948?

_____

_____

_____

- Scroll down to "March 21, 1948."

2. On March 21, 1948, the Investigative Board decided that tornadoes could not be forecast, given the current state-of-the-art. What did they recommend?

_____

_____

_____

_____

- Scroll down to "March 22-24, 1948."

3. What did Fawbush and Miller study over the next three days?

_____

_____

_____

- Scroll down to "March 25, 1948."

4. What happened at 2:50 p.m. on March 25, 1948?

_____

_____

_____

5. Later that night, what happened for the second time in five days?

_____

_____

_____

6. The first tornado forecast led to what?

_____

_____

_____

- Click "Back" twice to return to the Tornadoes "Gather Data.1" web page.

- Scroll to the bottom of the page and click "Forward."

B. Tornado Statistics

- Click on the "Fujita Scale" site.
- Look at the two pie charts and read the descriptions.

1. What years of data are these statistics made from?

   _____

   _____

2. What percentage of all tornadoes are considered:

   a. Weak? _____

   b. Strong? _____

   c. Violent? _____

3. Did the number of people killed by tornadoes increase or decrease
    after 1950?

   _____

   _____

-Scroll down to "The Fujita Scale" table.

4. What kinds of damage are typical of these tornadoes?

   a. Weak (FO and F1) _____

   _____

   _____

   b. Strong (F2 and F3) _____

   _____

   _____

   c. Violent (F4 and F5) _____

   _____

   _____

- Click "Back" to get to the Tornadoes "Gather Data.2" web page.
- Scroll to the bottom of the page and click "Forward."

C. Decoding the Dallas County Texas Tornado Statistics Summary

- Click on "All Tornado Statistics" site.
- Click on "every state in the USA."

1. What years of data were used for the first step?

_____

_____

- Scroll down to the map of the United States.
- Click on Texas.
- Click on the letter "D" and then scroll down to Dallas County.

2. Of the 66 tornadoes, tally with hatch marks how many were:

F0: _____

F1: _____

F2: _____

F3: _____

F4: _____

F5: _____

3. Add your totals to show how many tornadoes were in the following categories:

Weak (F0 + F1): _____

Strong (F2 + F3): _____

Violent (F4 + F5): _____

4. Now calculate what percentage each category represents of the total number of tornadoes (hint: divide the number in the category by the total, 66, and multiply by 100):

Weak: _____

Strong: _____

Violent: _____

- Close the "Texas Tornadoes – Page 3" web site.

- Click "Back" to return to the Tornadoes "Gather Data.3" page.
- Click "Return" at the bottom of the page to go to the Tornadoes main page or choose "Tornadoes" from your Favorites or Bookmarks.

- Click "Application."