

# SWIM OR DIE!

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Wendy was getting ready for school while watching the news. The news reporter said that Hurricane Uma was going to hit Florida. Wendy was so scared that then she started to cry. Her mom told her "don't worry I will be there for you." "Okay, now we should get going." A couple minutes later they arrived at school. " Bye mom! " Wendy said cheerfully. " Hello Wendy" said Mrs. Lantz right after she walked into the door. "Okay class today might be a little scary because of Hurricane Uma but there is no reason to be scared. " (Over the intercom) "All students and teachers please go to the auditorium we have a very important video to show you all." I started to get a little worried. " Okay, everyone be quiet so that we can start the video! " Mrs. Young yelled. (News Reporter) "Okay if you can see here Hurricane Uma is moving fast, and it looks like it is coming to where we are in Florida." " We need as many people as possible to leave the city and everybody who can't leave get to the safest place that you can." A little girl started to scream and then I did to. Mrs. Lantz came to calm me down. Even though I stopped screaming I was still scared out of my mind. I kept my fears to myself because I didn't want to worry Mrs. Lantz even more. A couple minutes later my mom surprised me by walking into the classroom. I was so happy to see her. She asked my teacher if she was allowed to stay with me for the whole school day. Then out of nowhere we started to hear thunder and heavy rain started to fall after that a gust of wind ripped a tree out of the ground. That was when all of

the teachers started to take their students to the gym because that was the safest place in the school. My mom stayed by me the whole time and that made me feel a little less scared. The gym was a little crowded but I wasn't all that surprised because all of the teachers and students from the whole school were there. After about half hour water started to come into the gym. Kids started to cry and scream while the teachers were trying to calm them down. More and more water started to come into the gym. We had nowhere else to go because the school was getting flooded to. We had two choices, what were they? **SWIM OR DIE!** Some of the kids couldn't swim so I knew what their choice was. My mom was right behind me as I was swimming towards the door. I had to dive under all of the water to get to the door. Once I got above the water I saw a wooden raft. I hopped on but my mom couldn't reach the raft because of the fast current. Her mom yelled ''Wendy'' but her voice was drowned out by water and Wendy then new that she would never see her mother again. She paddled to higher ground and once she was there she knew that she would survive. The rain had stopped and people who were on top of their houses were waving their arms up to the helicopters soaring through the air. A little while later they rescued Wendy and flew her to Texas. She was still very sad that her mother had died but happy that she was one of the few hundred that had survived. And after all the water was gone in Florida she went back with the American Red Cross to help clean up her town. After a couple of years her town was finally cleaned up. Even though during that flood they lost so many people they would never forget about them.

