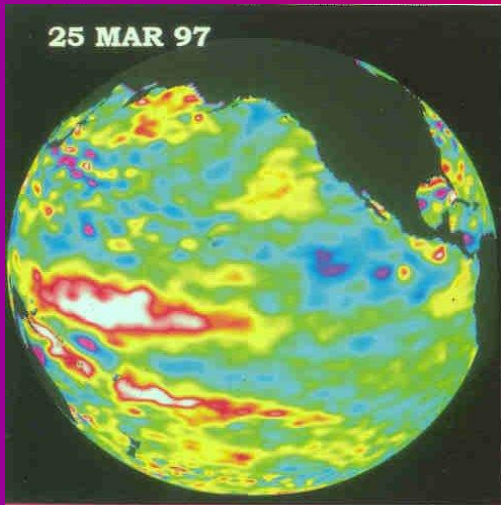
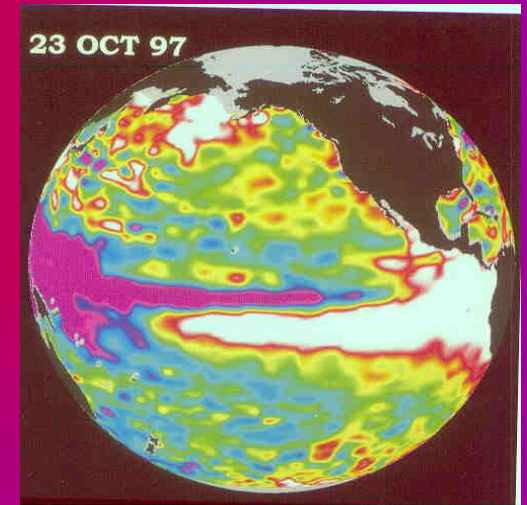


# El Niño, La Niña: It Changes Our World



La Niña



El Niño

Keyli Hill  
Science  
Mr. Shepard

# El Niño

- Rain and flooding on the pacific coast.
- Warm water disrupts the food chain of fish, birds and sea mammals.
- Tornadoes and thunderstorms are more numerous in the southern United States.
- Less than normal hurricanes occur in the Atlantic ocean.

# La Niña

- Snow and rain is more numerous on the west coast.
- Unusually cold weather in Alaska
- Unusually warm weather in the rest of the United States.
- Droughts occur in the south-west.
- Higher than normal amount of hurricanes in the Atlantic ocean.

Thinkquest, 5-10-12, <http://library.thinkquest.org/5818/elnino.html>

# Conditions That Cause El Niño And La Niña

- El Niño and La Niña are climate cycles so they are annual.
- But it is also the result from the ocean and the tropical part of the atmosphere interacting



Noaa.gov,5-11-12, [http://www.research.noaa.gov/climate/t\\_elnino.html](http://www.research.noaa.gov/climate/t_elnino.html),  
[http://www.elnino.noaa.gov/lanina\\_new\\_faq.html](http://www.elnino.noaa.gov/lanina_new_faq.html)

# How Long They Last

- Usually about 9-12 months
- Sometimes though, they can last up to 2 years



Noaa.org, 5-11-12, [http://www.elnino.noaa.gov/lanina\\_new\\_faq.html](http://www.elnino.noaa.gov/lanina_new_faq.html)

# When In Time

- On average it is every 3 to 5 years
- But in past records it has varied from 2 to 7 years.



Noaa.gov,5-14-12, -[http://www.elnino.noaa.gov/lanina\\_new\\_faq.html](http://www.elnino.noaa.gov/lanina_new_faq.html)

# So Much Damage!

- Most floods, landslides and forest fires are caused by El Niño and La Niña.
- El Niño is linked to increased precipitation and that is why there are floods.
- For example in downtown San Francisco the normal amount of precipitation is 250 mm of rain but during an El Niño on average it is 996 mm.
- If it was a big enough land slide like it was in San Mateo it can cost up to **\$55,000,000.00!**

Usgs.gov, 5-11-12, <http://pubs.usgs.gov/mf/1999/mf-2325/>



# Interesting Facts!

- El Niño means “little boy” because it was named after Jesus because it usually starts around Christmas time
- La Niña means “little girl”. It can also be called El Viejo meaning “old man”
- It is the most powerful phenomenon on the Earth. It changes the climate of about half of the Earth