The Flood of 1955
Buried in Water Video & Worksheet

Use the following questions to guide your viewing of Mattatuck Moments: Buried in Water

1. Which rivers were mainly effected by Hurricane Connie and Hurricane Diane?
   a. Mad River, Shepaug River, Housatonic, and most importantly, Nauagtuck River.

2. Which other disaster in Waterbury, prior to the Flood of 1955, left a lasting impact on the city?
   a. 1902 – The Great Fire, which desimated the downtown retail area

3. Which area(s) of waterbury was most impacted by the flood?
   a. The west side
   b. The south end
   c. Brooklyn neighborhood

4. What were the biggest losses as a result of flooding?
   a. Loss of life
   b. Financial loss
      i. Commercial hubs flooded
   c. Neighborhoods destroyed
      i. 17 homes ripped from their foundation

5. While the Flood was described as cleaving the city in two, in what ways did it work to unify city residents? Give specific examples.
   a. It fostered a sense of community
      i. Police, firefighters, local business, and public worked to preserve human life
   b. Sikorsky loaned by national guard flew hundreds of rescue missions and food supplies
   c. Coca Cola provided water
   d. Clean up crews as soon as water receded

6. What disease outbreak did city residents fear and how did they combat its risk?
   a. Typhoid Fever
   b. 8,000 residents innoculated
7. What steps were taken to ensure that a future disaster such as this would be avoided?  
   a. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers developed a system of dams, completed in 1960  
   b. Thomaston dam

*Use the following questions to guide a discussion of Buried in Water*

1. What is something you learned about the Flood of 1955 from watching this video?

2. Some believe that the Flood of 1955 contributed to the downfall of industry in the Naugatuck Valley, which had reached its peak producing munitions during World War II. In what ways could the Flood have negatively impacted industry in the long run?

3. What do you learn from firsthand accounts of historical events? What do you learn from facts and data of historical events? How are they the same or different?