



# The Year Without a Summer

A volcano name Mount Tambora erupted in April of 1815 in what was is now Indonesia. This massive volcanic blast, almost 100 times larger than the explosion of Mount St. Helens in 1980, sent volcanic ash and gases all the way around the Earth. The debris in the atmosphere prevented sunlight from reaching the Earth, temporarily changing the Earth's climate. Between May and August of 1816, the Northern Hemisphere experienced snow and hail. The unseasonably cold weather brought caused crop failures which in turn led to famines. In history, 1816 is known as the "year without a summer."

Imagine that instead of getting warmer and sunnier in the late spring, the weather began to get very cold, with snow, ice, and hail. Imagine that this situation lasted for months. What do you think that it would be like today? What do you think would happen?

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