



EXTREME WEATHER IN AUSTRALIA

NATURAL DISASTERS



SERIES Natural Disasters
TITLE Extreme Weather in Australia
AUTHOR Meghan Grey
PUBLISHER Redback Publishing
(Also online at REDeBOOKS.com.au)

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EXTENT 32 pages, full-colour

GENRE Children's Non-Fiction

SUBJECTS Geography, Weather

AGE SUITABILITY Interest age 7+ years

READING AGE 7+ years

THEMA CODE/CBMC YQG/C5N79

ABOUT THE SERIES

Droughts, floods, cyclones and bushfires have influenced Australia for thousands of years. Some native plants and animals have even adapted to the unavoidable recurrence of these destructive forces of nature. How is climate change affecting these cycles of nature, and how are Australia's farms, cities and bushland affected?

ABOUT THE BOOK

Australia is a very large country, with great diversity in its climate and terrain. In this book, find out about the different kinds of extreme weather that affect Australia, and how one country can experience such a wide range of severe and dangerous weather conditions. See the damage and the risks, as well as what you can do to keep yourself safe!



CONTENTS

What is
Extreme Weather?

Types of Extreme Weather

Extreme Storms

Thunderstorms

Thunder and Lightning

Heavy Rain and Flooding

Flash Floods

Hail

Australia's
Costliest Supercell

Tornadoes

Tropical Cyclones

Dust Storms

Heatwaves

Snowstorms

Damaging Winds

Safety During an Extreme
Weather Event

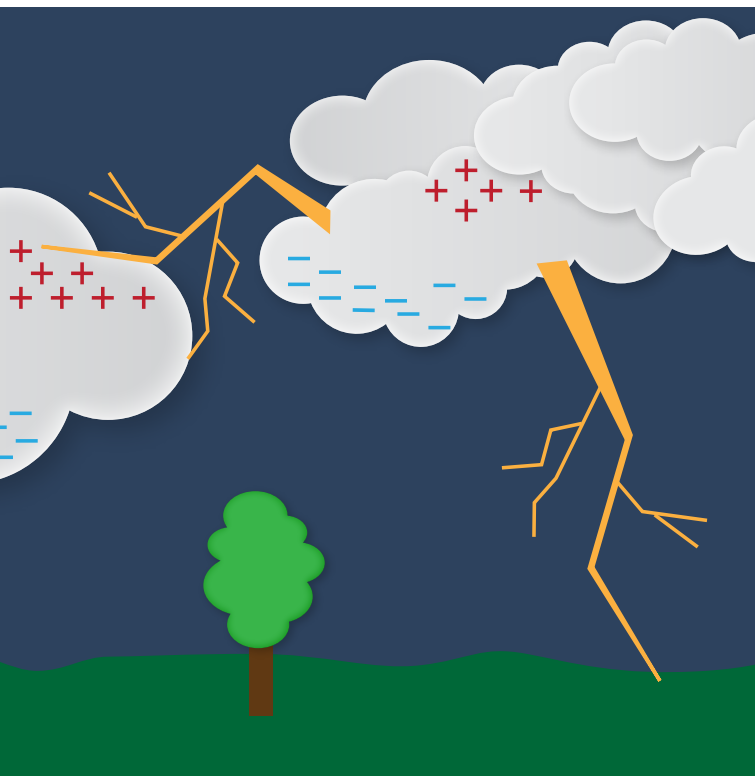
Emergency Services

Wild Weather and Wildlife

Long Term Impacts

How Climate Change
Affects Extreme Weather

Glossary and Index



TEXT AND IMAGES

The text is accompanied by images and illustrations of real extreme weather events in Australia. The information is presented in a clear and approachable for primary age readers, giving them an overview of a wide range of extreme weather events across the country along with their causes, impacts and the precautions needed to stay safe in dangerous conditions.

Infographics detail the stages and formation of wild weather events, backing the scientific explanations and information with visual literacy components.

Both the short-term and long-term impacts of disastrous weather on humans, nature and the climate stated clearly in lists and easy to read text boxes.

CLASSROOM DISCUSSION IDEAS

MY COUNTRY

Look at a map of Australia. As a class, discuss how it is possible for one country to experience such a vast range of extreme and completely different weather conditions.

CHANGING CLIMATE

As a class, reflect on the impact extreme weather conditions has on the world and the effect that the changing climate will have.



CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY 1

Aims of This Activity

- To learn about one weather event in detail.

Description of Activity

1. Students are to pick one extreme weather condition listed in *Extreme Weather in Australia* by Meghan Grey and create a poster or infographic.
2. In their project, students should include the following information about their selected weather event:
 - the cause
 - the risks and damage
 - the areas that are most prone
 - safety precautions

Extension activity

Students can make a documentary style video to relay the information.

ACTIVITY 2

Aims of This Activity

- Understand the impact of extreme weather events of nature and wildlife.

Description of Activity

1. Students are to list all the dangerous weather conditions that appear in *Extreme Weather in Australia* by Meghan Grey.
2. For each weather condition they are to write a few sentences on the impact that event would have on the wildlife that live in that area. They should consider the impact these events would have on the water, food sources and habitats of local wildlife.

Extension activity

Students can weigh the impacts and decide which weather event has the most negative impact on local wildlife. Have them write a persuasive piece with three arguments as to why they believe their chosen weather event has the worst impact.

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM

YEAR 5

GEOGRAPHY (AC9HS4K05) - the management of Australian environments, including managing severe weather events such as bushfires, floods, droughts or cyclones, and their consequences.



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