

Australian Weather

events

Teacher Notes

Bushfire

Cyclone

Drought

Earthquake

Flood

WEATHER EVENTS

Bushfire



Planning Sheet - Bushfire newspaper Report

Title

Important Facts -Dot Points

Vocabulary I will need

In your Newspaper report, you may want to highlight:

- *where the fire started
- *what caused it (was it an accident or deliberately lit?)
- *where and how it spread
- *the damage it caused
- *how long it burnt
- *what happened to the person who lit the fire (if it was deliberately lit).

Write a paragraph

Name of the bushfire event

How did it start?

What was the human impact?

bushfires

droughts

floods

Cyclones



Grades 5-6

WEATHER EVENTS



TEACHING/LEARNING ACTIVITIES bushfires - Web Resources

Bushfires can be started by natural causes, such as lightning strikes, or by people (accidentally or on purpose). Weather conditions and fuel conditions play a part in bushfires happening. Materials such as leaf litter, bark, small branches and twigs, grasses and shrubs can provide fuel for bushfires. Dry fuel is more likely to catch fire and burn easily, damp or wet fuel may not burn. The type of fuel that is available to burn, how much of it there is, and how dry or moist it is will influence bushfire conditions. Hot, dry and windy weather can contribute to fire danger. Specifically, weather-related factors that contribute to an increased risk of bushfire danger include:

- High temperatures
- Low humidity
- Little recent rain

How do bushfires start?
Wildfires and how fires spread
Disaster Map: Bushfires
Bushfire History
Worst bushfires in Australia's history
South Australia endures heatwave
Great Ocean Road bushfire, homes destroyed as fire rages eastward
Black Saturday Disaster
Real Life Bushfire stories
Black Friday stories
ABC Bushfire stories



WORKSHEETS AND TEACHING NOTES

Planning Sheet - Bushfire newspaper Report

Title _____

Vocabulary I will need _____

Important Facts -Dot Points

Fact 1 _____

Fact 2 _____

Fact 3 _____

Where the fire started
What caused it (was it an accident or deliberately lit?)
Where and how it spread
The damage it caused
How long it burnt
What happened to the person who lit the fire (if it was deliberately lit)

Write a paragraph

of Bushfires on Humans, animals and the environment
Name of the bushfire event _____



Map 11



TEACHING/LEARNING ACTIVITIES earthquakes

The ground shakes, buildings tumble and the earth heaves and cracks. Serious earthquakes are terrifying and dangerous.

The earth is made up of four layers - the inner core, outer core, mantle and crust. The mantle and crust are a thin skin compared to the other layers. The mantle is about 1750 miles thick, while the crust is only about 8 miles thick. This thin skin is broken into pieces called tectonic plates. The plates are like puzzle pieces, floating on top of the Earth's inner core. Sometimes the pieces slide under or against each other and become stuck.

Earthquakes are caused by tectonic movement in the Earth's crust. The main cause is when tectonic plates slide over each other causing the earth to shake. Earthquake is just the sudden release of stored energy inside the Earth's crust causing waves of energy to be released. Tectonic plates are land masses. The plates use your fingernails grow. Earth running into each other or

Learning Intention

I will be able to:
"describe major characteristics of an earthquake
"observe and describe the effects of earthquakes- earthquakes of different magnitude affect the Earth's surface
"develop research skills and identify relevant information

Success Criteria

I will be a successful learner when I can:

TEACHING/LEARNING ACTIVITIES earthquakes

Earthquakes are unpredictable and can occur at any time. At least one earthquake occurs somewhere in the world each day. Some are big tremors that can hardly be felt, while others are much stronger.

Major earthquakes cause dramatic changes to the Earth's surface. Strong earthquakes can affect millions of lives by causing buildings to collapse, destroying roadways and bridges and affecting necessities such as electricity and water supply.

Fortunately, most earthquakes are fairly shallow. It is still not possible to accurately predict where and when an earthquake will happen. However, greater understanding of their causes helps scientists estimate the locations and likelihood of future damaging earthquakes.

What is an Earthquake?

Simply, earthquakes are the shaking, shaking or

After the destructive earthquakes in Japan and New Zealand, you have been employed to be part of a specialised team of researchers to answer the question "Can our community be hit by an earthquake? What might be its devastating effects? What can we do to minimise the impact?"

As a seismologist you will be researching the causes of earthquakes and the likelihood of this occurring in your local area.

Questions:

1. What is an earthquake and what causes it.
2. How are earthquakes measured?
3. Where are earthquakes most likely to occur?
4. When and where have there been the most destructive earthquakes.
5. What earthquakes have occurred in your area? When have these earthquakes occurred?
6. What is the likelihood of an earthquake happening on Australian land

Your report should include details on the following:

Location, including a map
A brief explanation of why the earthquake happened

Flood news Report

You are the newest Weather person for your local television station. Due to the heavy rainfall in your region, your boss has asked you to research the topic of flash floods and create a photo story presentation for all your viewers. The presentation needs to make your audience learn about how to stay safe during flash floods.

Your job is to report on what happened as a result of a flood in your region or country. While you are investigating about floods you will find out what type of flood it was: Slow-onset floods, Rapid-onset floods or a Flash flood.



The Facts

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

Geography

Grades 5-6 WEATHER EVENTS



TEACHING/LEARNING ACTIVITIES Cyclones Tracy

The worst cyclone in Australia was Cyclone Tracy, which devastated the city of Darwin, Northern Territory on Christmas Eve 1974.

On December 20, 1974, the Bureau of Meteorology in Northern Australia noticed a cyclone forming off the coast. They named it Tracy.

The people of the weather bureau closely watched Tracy for the next few days but did not feel that the cyclone posed a major threat to Darwin. They thought that it would pass well to the north of Darwin.

However early on Christmas Eve, 24 December 1974, Tracy came closer, turned and began to speed towards the city. From midnight until 7am on Christmas Day the cyclone passed directly over Darwin. The wind speed was 27 kilometres per hour and Tracy brought huge rainfall. Houses and other buildings were blown apart. 47 people died in the city and another 16 were drowned at sea. Seven out of every ten of Darwin's homes were destroyed or severely damaged.

One season in Australia is between November and April, however cyclones can still occur in May. The season for hurricanes and typhoons in the Northern Hemisphere is between June and November.

According to the Bureau of Meteorology, Australia has, on average, 10 cyclones a year. Half of these occur in the western region.

Learning Intention

- I will be able to:
 - Describe major characteristics of a cyclone
 - Understand how tropical cyclones occur and the effects and damage that cyclones can cause to people and our environment
 - Develop research skills and identify relevant information

Success Criteria

- I will be a successful learner when I can:
 - Complete jobs as a reporter and informed the general public of my research on the tropical cyclones in North Queensland.
 - Understand how tropical cyclones occur and the effects and damage that cyclones can cause to people and our environment
 - Develop research skills and identify relevant information

newspaper report - Cyclone

CYCLONE

You have been asked to report on a tropical cyclone in North Queensland. You will be working for a National Television Station and you will need to inform the Australian public on the tropical depression that is approaching the coast. Although this event has not yet been classified as a tropical cyclone, you will need to keep the public informed on the developing weather event, particularly what effect it might have on the people and the environment in that area.

As a reporter your job is to research facts, write a report and present it to the Australian public.

Task 1 Use the internet to help you research the website given to you on tropical cyclones and write a report including the information you have gathered from answering the questions.

Task 2 Present a 5 minute "News bulletin" to the class on your report. You should take on the role as a News presenter and you may use artefacts or diagrams to assist you.

Questions

- What is the energy source of a tropical cyclone?
- What are the three stages of development of a tropical cyclone?
- How do tropical cyclones form in the sea?
- What type of devastation is caused to Earth's surface (environmental and to people)?
- What type of warnings do people get if a cyclone is approaching?
- How do we know how severe it will be?
- How and when can people prepare for an oncoming cyclone?
- When during the cyclone, what other weather events can be expected? e.g. storm surge, flooding
- What types of plans are put into place to help people affected by cyclones?

newspaper report - Cyclone

Cyclone Facts (dot points)

Questions:

- What is the energy source of a tropical cyclone?
- What are the three stages of development of a tropical cyclone?
- Are tropical cyclones the same as hurricanes? Explain.
- Do all tropical cyclones have an eye?
- What type of devastation is caused to Earth's surface (environmental and to people)?
- What type of warnings do people get if a cyclone is approaching?
- How do we know how severe it will be?
- How and when can people prepare for an oncoming cyclone?
- When during the cyclone, what other weather events can be expected? e.g. storm surge, flooding
- What types of plans are put into place to help people affected by cyclones?

Teaching Notes

Using the slideshow as a guide, these sheets can be used to guide your students through the activities that are planned to complete this unit of work.

While written mainly for Australian classrooms, the issue of climate change and more weather events is a regular occurrence in our lives.

Links for website research are provided in all units of work and students are encouraged to use them to do their investigating.

Colour versions of the activities can be used on the interactive whiteboard or on computers to work with your students where and if necessary.

I do... teacher demonstration

We do... work through an activity with your students

You do... get students off to work on their own tasks, where possible, for a set time.

Planning Sheet - Bushfire Newspaper Report

Title

Vocabulary I will need

Important Facts - Dot Points

Fact 1

Fact 2

Fact 3

Write a paragraph

In your Newspaper report, you may want to highlight:

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- *how long it burnt
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Design and make - Safe home for animal survival

Design and label sketch

Planning Sheet - Effects of Bushfires on Humans, animals and the environment

Other Facts

What could have been done to prevent it?

Fact 1

Fact 2

Fact 1

Fact 2

Grades 5-6



WEATHER EVENTS



Earthquakes

Students explore the impact earthquakes have on Australian people, places and environments and propose ways people can reduce the impact of earthquakes in the future.



droughts

Students explore the impact droughts have on Australian people, places and environments and propose ways people can reduce the impact of droughts in the future.



floods

Students explore the impact floods have on Australian people, places and environments and propose ways people can reduce the impact of floods in the future.



Australian Weather events

Teacher notes

- Bushfire
- Cyclone
- Drought
- Earthquake
- Flood

Useful websites for researching:

- Tropical Cyclone Warning Services
- Modeling Tropical Cyclones
- Tropical Cyclones
- Wix Kids- Hurricanes
- Hurricanes - National Geographic
- Hurricane PPTs
- Cyclones
- Hurricanes
- Floods and Cyclones
- Before, During and After
- Swedish Cyclones: Identification and Safety Drills

Dictionary Work

Write definitions for these earthquake words

A full list of definitions can be found at: <https://www.3dgeography-pictures.co.uk/earthquake-words>

aftershock		landslides	
hazard		liquefaction	
crust		magnitude	
disaster		plate	
earthquake		tsunami	
epicentre		Zone of Rise	
faults			
focus			

Flood Safety Poster

For your presentation you will also need to ensure that you create a safety poster warning residents of the different types of floods for people who may be living in a flood prone area.

Keeping Safe in a flood

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6

Earthquake Event

Name of the event and location on the map.



Map it

Flood news Report

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The Facts

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

Dictionary Work

Your task:

Make a PowerPoint presentation (or Google Slides presentation) of the earthquake words you have been learning today. On each slide, include: one earthquake word, the word's definition and an image to help explain the word.

Handy tip: A good website for free PowerPoint and Google Slides templates is www.slidescarnival.com.

Liquifaction

A process by which water-saturated sediment temporarily loses strength and acts as a fluid, like when you wiggle your toes in the wet sand near the water at the beach. This effect can be caused by earthquake shaking.



Epicentre

the part of the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake



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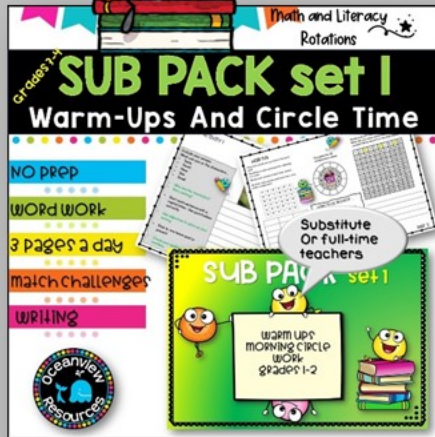
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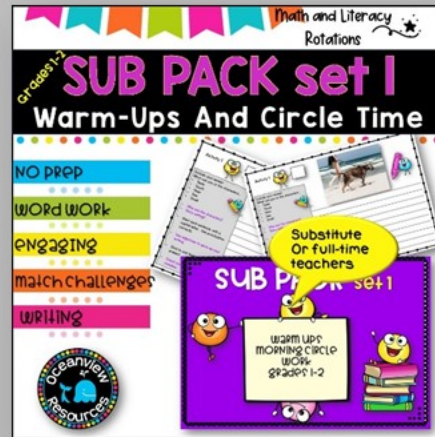
Nikki Tester



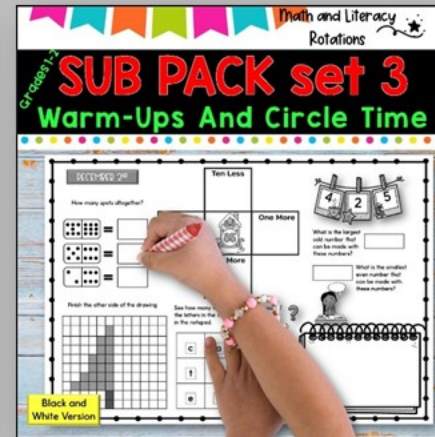
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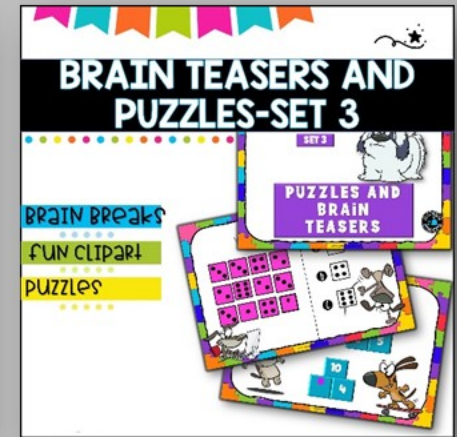
Sub pack Set 1 grades
1/2



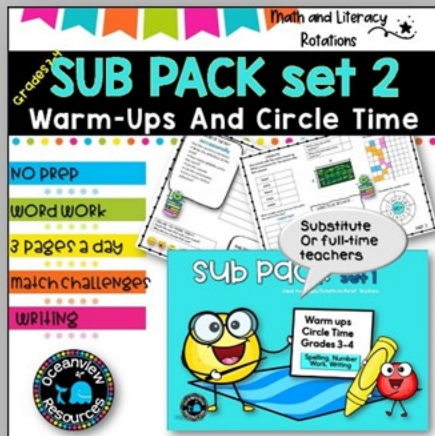
Sub pack Set 1 grades
3/4



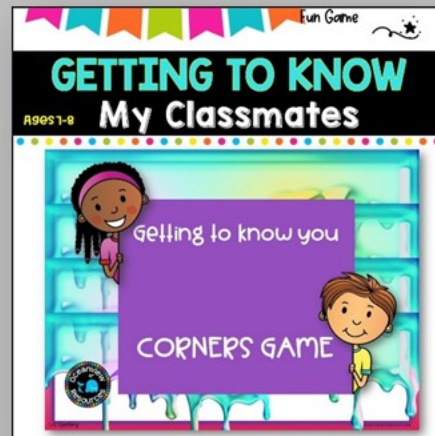
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1/2



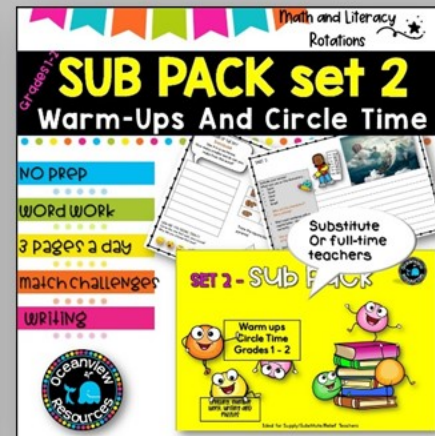
Brain teasers and
puzzles set 2



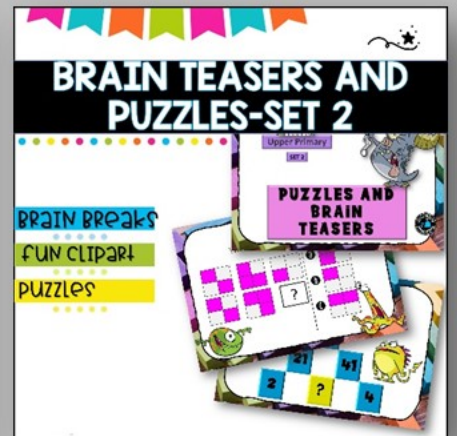
Sub pack Set 2 grades
1/2



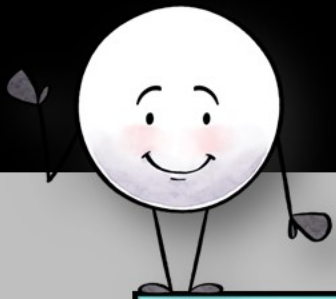
Getting to know you



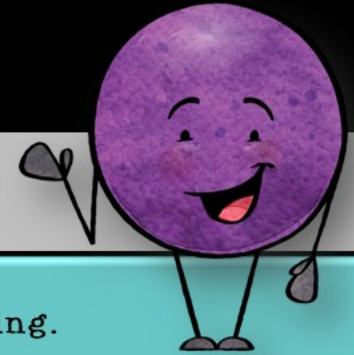
Sub pack Set 2 grades
3/4



Brain teasers and
puzzles set 3



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