

## Overview

Victoria State Emergency Service (SES) has developed an educational game ([www.vicses.com.au/stormsafe-game](http://www.vicses.com.au/stormsafe-game)) which depicts a neighbourhood that has just received a severe thunderstorm warning. Players have to identify potential hazards to houses in a neighbourhood, select and fix them up, while earning items for their Home Emergency Kit.

The following lesson plan can be conducted before or after the game has been played and assists in consolidating students' learning and understanding.

It is suggested that any observations, student work or comments recorded during this lesson be displayed in your classroom, under the heading 'How to be StormSafe', for others to see and learn from.

## What damage can occur during a storm? How can we be safe during a storm?

| Outline                                                                                                   | Materials                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Time   | Conclusion                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| To cover storms, damage that can occur during a storm and how Home Emergency Kits help us to be prepared. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support material #1: Storms</li> <li>Support material #2: Before and after scenarios</li> <li>Worksheet #1: How can you be StormSafe?</li> <li>Coloured pencils/textas</li> </ul> <p><i>Optional</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Worksheet #2: Home Emergency Kit items</li> </ul> | 1 hour | Students will gain an understanding of storms, what damage can occur during a storm and how they can be safe during a storm. |

## Introduction

15 minutes

- 1 Begin by discussing the weather to engage students in the topic. *What is the weather like today? Is it likely that it is going to rain today?*
- 2 Then ask specific questions about storms. *What is a storm?* Lead students to the answer that storms can be unpredictable and can produce lots of different and dangerous weather events.
- 3 Show *Support material #1* and discuss what students can see in the pictures.

## Activity

30 minutes

- 4 Show *Support material #2* and discuss what students can see in the before and after pictures. Hold up the pictures, covering the after scenario. Students discuss what they can see in the before scenario and predict what damage might occur when there is a storm. Show the after scenario to see if their predictions are correct.

The third picture has two before scenarios depicting loose branches over the fence and a car not parked under cover. Discuss the pictures and as a class, predict what might happen in these pictures during a storm.

- 5 Ask students what they should do to stay safe during a storm. The SES advises children should stay inside with an adult.

- 6 Show students **Worksheet #1** and discuss what you can see in the coloured picture. Point out the different unsecured items, the leaves in the gutters, down pipes and drains, the car and branches over the house/shed. Read the question '*How can you be StormSafe?*' and discuss with students what their answer might be. Using the outlined illustration, students could colour and/or circle the items which need to be moved inside or under cover, cleared or cleaned up so the backyard is StormSafe.
- 7 Distribute a copy to each student and ask that they complete it independently.

## Conclusion

15 minutes

- 8 Students sit on the floor in a circle and take turns showing their worksheet and reading what they wrote.
- 9 Explain to students that they are to go home and show their parents their completed worksheet and explain what they have learnt about being StormSafe.

## Extension activity

- For students to gain a good understanding of the Home Emergency Kit, what it contains, why each item is included, distribute a copy of **Worksheet #2** where students can colour in each item and write what it is.



Support material #1

# Storms

Grades 1 & 2







Support material #2



# Before and after scenarios

Grades 1 & 2



**Tie down loose objects.**



**Or they may fly into windows or buildings**



# Remove loose branches.

Strong wind can easily snap branches and smash into fences and other property.



Hail could damage and dent the car.

Park the car undercover





## Worksheet #1



# How can you be StormSafe?

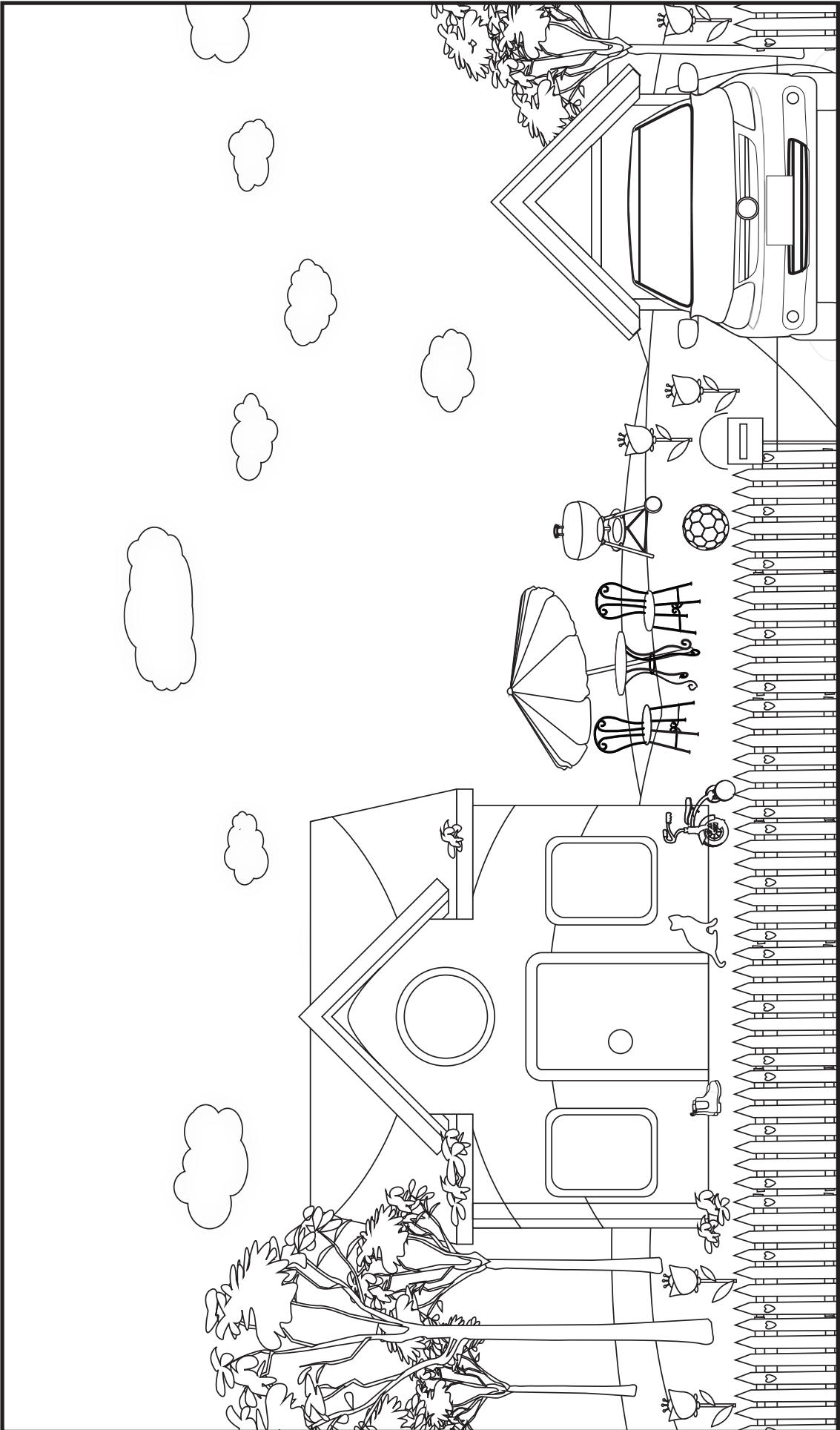
Grades 1 & 2



How can you be StormSafe?

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# Home Emergency Kit items

Grades 1 & 2

