



08

Staying Inside



Lesson Number: 8A - It's Raining, It's Pouring

Year Level:
P/K-3

5Es:
Explore

Curriculum Links:
English, Science

Lesson Number: 8A**It's Raining, It's Pouring****Theme: Staying Inside**

In this story the importance of staying inside until clearance is given after severe weather like a cyclone is stressed. Amy is impatient to go outside and collect leaves for Maddie, the koala, and is glad when the rain stops. But Trev stops her. They don't know it's safe yet. But Amy is convinced it is. Look how still it is outside, and the rain has stopped. Trev is shocked when, in front of the window, a large branch drops from a tree with a crash. He suggests to Amy that they go and listen to the radio for cyclone updates with Mum and Dad and find out if it's safe to go outside.

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What students will 'Know and Do':

Students will gain an understanding of the need to stay safe during and after storms, and will be able to demonstrate that understanding through recalling the correct things to do while inside.

1. View the *Li'L Safety Club Natural Disasters* advertisement – **Staying Inside**
2. Ask students to list the items of advice that are delivered in the advertisement, for example, stay inside during a storm until it is safe to go outside, check that the rain and wind has ceased, among others. Refer to **Background information: Rain, Storms and Floods.**
3. As a class, discuss why Amy wanted to go outside and why she shouldn't.
4. Introduce students to the topic of cyclones and ask them what they already know. List what they know on a board or large sheet of paper.
5. Ask students if they had already experienced a cyclone or severe storm. Ask them to suggest what they did, or could do, to occupy their time while inside during the storm/cyclone.
6. List these on the board as well.
EXAMPLES for list:
 - Play board games, for example, Monopoly, Scrabble, Snakes and Ladders, or make up their own game
 - Write, draw or do crafts, or photograph/video the storm (from a safe place)
 - Help mum or dad, for example, cooking, cleaning up, preparing an emergency kit
 - Clean your room
 - Build with blocks, Lego or other toys
 - Read a book, for example, research cyclones
 - If the electricity is still on: watch TV, videos, internet access of the SES website
 - Be creative with ideas
7. Ask students to write a letter inviting local State Emergency Service personnel to give a talk at their school about being prepared and responsive in an emergency.
8. After the talk ask students to write a thank you letter to the SES speaker, citing two important points that they made during the talk/ presentation.

Cyclonic activity is generally isolated to the northern parts of Australia. You may wish to adapt these activities to suit similar weather events in your local region. For example, 'East Coast Lows' off the eastern coast of Australia.

Useful resources:

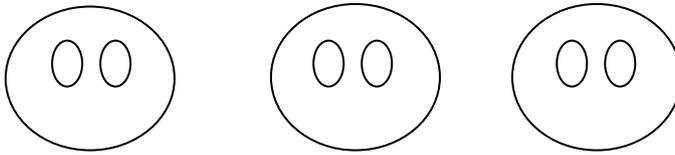
- Australian Bureau of Meteorology:
www.bom.gov.au/
- Kidinfo.com, Your Guide to Weather:
www.kidinfo.com/science/weather.html
- Bureau of Meteorology: Severe Thunderstorms:
www.bom.gov.au/info/thunder/
- EMQ: Be prepared: Storm Surge:
www.emergency.qld.gov.au/emq/css/beprepared.asp

Theme: Staying Inside

Name:

Class:

1. Remember what it feels like to have to stay inside? Draw a mouth on the face to show it.



2. It has been raining heavily all morning and you can't go outside to play. What could you do to entertain yourself while you are inside the house? Write or draw your ideas.

Make a list of what you could do inside

1

2

3

4

5

3. Write a letter inviting a State Emergency Service volunteer to your school for a visit.

OR

Write a thank-you letter after a talk by a State Emergency Service volunteer and tell them what two points you remembered from their talk/presentation.