



09

Flash Floods



Lesson Number: 9B – Happy Campers

Year Level:
3-5

5Es:
Explain

Curriculum Links:
English, Media, Geography



An Australian Government Initiative



AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S
TELEVISION FOUNDATION

Lesson Number: 9B**Happy Campers****Theme: Flash Floods**

In this story the message is that floods can happen in a flash. Amy and Jimmy have set up the tent near the dry river bed. But Trev, who has just arrived, explains that it is dangerous to set up near the river. Amy and Jimmy can't see the danger and Trev points out the coming rain. If it rains, that rain can lead to floods in a flash, and there may be danger in camping this close to the river. He encourages the others to relocate the tent to higher ground, ensuring that they won't be caught if flash flooding occurs. As a call to action Amy and Jimmy agree and begin to move camp.

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What students will 'Know and Do':

Students will know that flash floods can occur quickly and will be able to explain the effects.

1. View the *Li'L Safety Club Natural Disasters* advertisement – **Flash Floods**
2. As a class, discuss what a flash flood is. Refer to **Background information: Rain, Storm and Floods**. List the key points on the board. For example, flash floods happen quickly, flash floods happen when there is too much water in a small waterway, flash floods are unexpected. Ask students to make a list of the safety and preparation procedures for a flash flood.
3. As a class, view the YouTube footage (see Useful resources)
4. Explain to students that they are going to role play the person watching the flash flood and also a television news reporter who was at the scene.
5. Ask students to assume the role of the reporter and list the type of questions that the reporter would have asked.
6. Ask students to assume the role of a person affected by a flash flood and list the responses they would have given to the reporter.
7. Play 'Hot Seat Role Play' where a class member elects to play the part of the reporter and another, a person rescued from a flash flood. Other class members might like to take on the roles of bystanders, police, and emergency service personnel who came to the rescue. All would have a different story to tell. Each role-play actor needs to go into character and be able to answer questions from the class from their perspective of the incident.
8. Host the Hot Seat game by putting a chair at the front of the class and each player takes their seat to answer questions from the class.

Useful resources:

- Kellick Creek Flash Flood 10th Feb 2007
www.youtube.com/watch?v=MIQrSH6LMgA
- FVA- Incredible Melbourne Hail Storm Flash Flooding
www.youtube.com/watch?v=7OjipBe2s-l&feature=related

Newspaper stories as examples:

- Herald Sun: Police warn motorists to stay off flooded roads in regional Victoria
www.heraldsun.com.au/news/victoria/storms-sweep-across-victoria-with-severe-thunderstorm-warning-issue/story-e6frf7kx-1225961565689
- SES Western Australia: Community Information - Flood
www.ses-wa.asn.au/node/485

Student Activity Sheet: 9B	Happy Campers	Years 3-5
Theme: <u>Flash Floods</u>		
Name:		
Class:		

1. Imagine that you are the news reporter at the scene of a flash flood. Your job is to interview the affected person/s, witnesses and emergency services personnel to get the full facts of the story.
2. Prepare 6 questions that you would ask at the scene of the flash flood.
3. You should also prepare a diagram of a river and a safe place to put the tent.

Draft your question here. These are the questions you could also ask in the game, *Hot Seat Role-Play*.

