Lesson Number: 4B - Be a Weather Reporter

Year Level: 3-5

5Es: Explore

Curriculum Links: English
Be a Weather Reporter

Theme: Acting Early

The key message in this story is to act early and not leave things too late in cases of severe weather. Jimmy would like to continue playing outside but Trev is unsure of those clouds gathering on the horizon. Trev explains that they can’t predict if severe weather is coming, and that conditions can change rapidly, and they could be caught in the storm. Jimmy agrees, and suggests going inside to ask their parents to check the radio for weather updates and weather warnings.

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What students will 'Know and Do':

Students will know that storms are dangerous and they will be able to write a short weather reporter script and role play the presentation to enhance their awareness of acting early.

1. View the Li’L Safety Club Natural Disasters advertisement – Acting Early
2. As a class
   - Ask students to listen to weather information on the radio/internet and to consider why there is a need for an early warning system.
   - View YouTube (see Useful resources) video as a stimulus for discussion and a way of encouraging development of vocabulary. Brainstorm a list of words used in the storm warning that explain imminent danger.
   - Discuss the role of the weather-person in issuing storm warnings. Ask students to evaluate what effect the weather-person has in warning people. Analyse voice, tone, emotion, actions, situation, and background image.
   - Develop a script for an early warning of a storm using Student Activity Sheet 4B.
   - Role-play their script for their peers.

Useful resources:

Example of weather (flood) warning page:

- Victoria State Emergency Department:
- SES ACT: StormSafe radio commercial
- Power of Nature, storm video
  www.youtube.com/watch?v=a0hCwfQ57Zc&feature=related
- Storm blowing in, video
  www.youtube.com/watch?v=uTyTM319moM
- Bureau of Meteorology: Severe Weather Warning Sample:
- SES Tasmania: Recorded emergency alerts
  www.ses.tas.gov.au/Library/sews/sews-30s.wav
Be a Weather Reporter:

Write a script to warn listeners of a possible storm. In your script remind listeners that they need to act early, stay inside until after the storm, and that there is a chance of lightning strikes or flooding.

Warning! Warning! .................

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