Lesson Number: 5C – My Yard – Before and After

Year Level: 5-7

5Es: Elaborate

Curriculum Links: English, Science
### Lesson Number: 5C  My Yard – Before and After

**Theme:** Cleaning Up

In this story cleaning up the yard in preparation for severe weather is the key message. As Bob and Tucka watch the others cleaning up, Bob explains that they are cleaning up in case of a cyclone warning. Tucka wonders why they are securing heavy items such as trampolines and BBQs. It’s not as if they are light enough to blow around. But Bob dispels this misconception. Storms are hard to predict and better to be safe than sorry. Tucka agrees and starts to help with clearing up the toys in the yard.

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**What students will ‘Know and Do’:**

Students will know that it is important to prepare for storms and will be able to discuss the information about the importance of preparing for cyclones and wind especially clearing objects which could blow around. They will be able to explain why items need to be put away safely.

1. View the Li’L Safety Club Natural Disasters advertisement - **Cleaning Up**
2. Ask students to either sketch a section of their front/backyard, or imagine what their yard looks like. They may choose to photograph it also.
3. They should list the items in the drawing/photograph that will need to be stored away before a storm, for example, bikes, scooters, sports equipment; pool toys, outdoor furniture.
4. Ask students to take the picture and list home to discuss with their families a strategy to clean up the yard. Therefore, who has the responsibility to store which items?
5. Students should draw up a roster of responsibilities for their family members.
6. Ask students to research information about the Science and Geography of what causes different types of severe weather:
   - Electrical storms
   - Hail storms
   - Cyclones / Hurricanes
   - Tornadoes
   - Sun showers
7. Ask students to develop a poster presentation on at least one form of storm and present the information to the class.

**Useful resources:**

- National Geographic: Force of Nature
  [http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/search/?search=forces+of+nature](http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/search/?search=forces+of+nature)
- Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago
- Coastal Climate Change: The Science Basis
- Emergency Management for Schools -
- Dingo Creek
When it is very stormy and windy, things can blow around and cause damage.
What do you have in your yard that could blow around?
- In box 1, draw a plan of your house and yard with the things you usually have outside.
- In box 2, draw a plan for after you have tidied everything away.

You could do this on a bigger piece of paper!