06 Driving in Floodwater

Lesson Number: 6B - Driver Danger!

Year Level: 3-5

5Es: Elaborate

Curriculum Links: English, Media, Visual Arts
**Lesson Number:** 6B  
**Driver Danger!**

**Theme:** Driving in Floodwater

In this story the key message is that driving in floodwater is dangerous. It is raining heavily and Amy is impatient as she wants to go to Jimmy’s, but Trev points out that it’s dangerous to drive as the road might be flooded. Amy is under the misconception that the car will protect them in the water and they can get there with no problems. But Trev explains that the floodwater can rise rapidly in this weather, and strong currents could affect the car. Mum and Dad were right not to take them. Amy agrees, and suggests they get Mum and Dad to check the radio, to see if it is safe to drive on the roads yet.

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**What students will ‘Know and Do’:**

Students will understand why it is dangerous to drive in floodwater and will be able to complete the class activity.

1. View the Li’l Safety Club Natural Disasters advertisement - Driving in Floodwater.
2. Tell students that they will need to recall the key information to complete Student Activity Sheet 6B. Refer to Background Information: Rain, Storms, and Floods.
3. Students should select a word that would go in each of the spaces provided on the sheet. The word list is below the paragraph.
4. Ask students to write two sentences to describe why it is dangerous to drive across a flooded causeway.
5. Ask students to design a superhero/heroine character or mascot that could be used to promote safe driving practices. Research a variety of mascots for sporting clubs and events and ask students to find some images of superheroes. After they have discussed and identified the key elements of the characters, they should then draw/design their own. The mascot should have a costume and have a slogan to say.

**Useful resources:**

- Australian national sports team nicknames  
- YouTube video, police car stuck in flooded water  
  [www.youtube.com/watch?v=_B4UR0ZBFec&NR=1](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_B4UR0ZBFec&NR=1)
- Costume Factory Australia:  
- State Emergency Service Victoria: Flood Safe  
- SES Victoria: Kids Corner  
1. Read the story below and fill in the missing words to make the sentences correct. Select the correct words from the list below.

Amy wanted to go to __________, but it was raining heavily outside.
Trev had heard a warning on the radio and said the road might be ____________.
It is ____________ to drive in floodwater because there could be strong currents in the water. They would need to listen to the ____________ to hear when it was safe again.

Word List:

Jimmy’s                  hot                  slow
raining                 unsafe                dangerous
flooded                  slippery             radio

2. Write two sentences about what else you have learned about the dangers of driving in floodwater.

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