

Wild Weather Mayhem

Water Safety Watch & Learn episode: **Wild Weather Mayhem**

Duration: 8 minutes 09 seconds

Video link: <https://youtu.be/j-bHTwgE9ul>

Watch the full episode with your class, then complete activities below. [Click here](#) for more episodes.

LEVELS 5 & 6



Key Learning

In this lesson, students will learn about floods, including the dangers of floods and how these extreme weather events can cause many issues like pollution.



Video Summary Questions

- 1 Which type of flood often occurs in the city of Melbourne?
- 2 Where do stormwater drains lead to?
- 3 What causes storm water drains to flood?
- 4 How does pollution affect our natural waterways?
- 5 Why are floods so dangerous?



Activity: Stormwater Story

- Read the article 'Wild Weather Mayhem!' on page 3.
- **Short Story:** Students are to write a short creative piece from the perspective of the 12-year-old boy and his experience.
- Encourage students to use descriptive language features and complex sentences throughout their short story.
- **TV News Reporter:** Imagine you are a roving reporter, delivering a description of the events that occurred in the article 'Wild Weather Mayhem!'.
- Use the information about floods, particularly the dangers and consequences associated with storm water drains, to script a one-minute story for the evening news.
- Students can perform this to the class, or film using digital technology.



Curriculum

Health and Physical Education – Physical, Social and Community Health

Being healthy, safe and active.

- Plan and practise strategies to promote health, safety and wellbeing ([VCHPEP108](#))

Contributing to healthy and active communities

- Explore how participation in outdoor activities supports personal and community health and wellbeing and creates connections to the natural and built environment ([VCHPEP113](#))

English – Literature

Creating literature

- Level 5 - Create literary texts that experiment with structures, ideas and stylistic features of selected authors ([VCELT327](#))
- Level 6 - Experiment with text structures and language features and their effects in creating literary texts ([VCELT355](#))

Geography

Place, space and interconnection

- Identify and describe locations and describe and explain spatial distributions and patterns ([VCGGC086](#))

Science

Earth and space sciences

- Sudden geological changes or extreme weather conditions can affect Earth's surface ([VCSSU079](#))



Activity: Billboard Builders

- Create a billboard about one of the topics featured in the episode 'Wild Weather Mayhem'. These topics include:
 - Flooding
 - Storm water drains
 - River pollution
- Students can choose to create this billboard using a digital program or create a poster.
- The billboard must include a slogan or catch phrase, as well as eye-catching images/drawings.
- Students choose a target audience and a location for where they want their billboard to be situated i.e. overpass on the road or freeway, inner city buildings, storefronts etc.



Activity: Flood Research

- In pairs, students are to research two different flood disasters that have occurred in Australia over the past 10 years i.e. flash flood in a city and riverine flood in the country.
- Students are to then create a short information report, poster or slideshow that covers the following:
 - What are floods?
 - Why are floods so dangerous?
 - The impact of floods on the environment.
 - Key facts about the two flood events (e.g. location, date, size of land/area affected).
 - Compare the similarities and differences between the two flood events.



Activity: Pollution - Doing something about it.

- As a class, come up with an action to keep our drains and river systems clean. You may like to allocate different tasks to students to ensure the message is taken on board by your school.
- Students are to develop a short presentation as a 'pitch' to the principal or classmates.



Wild Weather Mayhem!

WATCH AND LEARN
NEWS 12.06.2020

A 12-year-old boy has been rescued after severe flood waters swept him into the Yarra River, Victoria.

The boy and his friend were playing in a large stormwater drain in Melbourne's South East. The friend managed to scramble out of the stormwater drain before he too was pushed into the river.

The severe storm that ripped through Melbourne's South East on Sunday afternoon resulted in flash flooding. The torrential rain began falling from 2:30 pm AEST causing havoc on the roads, pushing parked vehicles down the street and flooding many ground level shops and properties during the 50-minute downpour.

A bystander walking alongside the Yarra River spotted the boy in trouble.

"The boy was moving downstream so fast, I lost sight of him. Even as I was running, he was still travelling so fast that I could not keep up," the bystander said.

The bystander alerted emergency services and they were quick to arrive at the scene. Emergency service crews reached the boy by boat and rescued him approximately 2km from the stormwater drain where he first fell.

An emergency service spokesperson said "The boy was extremely lucky that the bystander alerted authorities when they did. The outcome may have been very different. We would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that entering stormwater drains is not only dangerous, it is illegal."