



Teacher Resource

Queensland Wild Weather

Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. What sort of weather has Queensland been experiencing recently? Describe.
2. Complete the missing gaps. Heavy rainfall in parts of Queensland has caused both flash_____ and riverine_____.
3. What is the name of the recent cyclone in Queensland?
4. How has the weather in Queensland impacted people?
5. What kind of weather does Queensland have?
 - a. Hot desert
 - b. Mediterranean
 - c. Tropical

Activity: Class Discussion

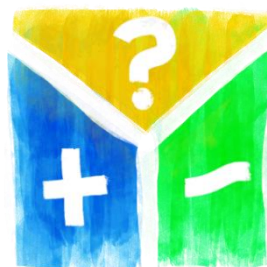
Discuss the BTN Queensland Wild Weather story as a class. Ask students what they know about cyclones and floods. Use the following questions to guide discussion:

- What do you know about the recent cyclones and floods in Queensland?
- What causes flooding?
- What do you know about cyclones?
- What impact have the cyclones and floods had on people and communities?
- What questions do you have?



Activity: Note taking

Students will practise their note-taking skills while watching the BTN Queensland Wild Weather story. After watching the story, ask students to reflect on and organise the information into three categories. What information in the story was positive, negative, or interesting?



EPISODE 1

6th February 2024

KEY LEARNING

Students will investigate the impact of floods and cyclones on people and communities.

CURRICULUM

Geography – Year 5

The impact of bushfires or floods on environments and communities, and how people can respond.

HASS – Year 5

The impact of bushfires or floods on environments and communities, and how people can respond.

Science – Year 6

Sudden geological changes and extreme weather events can affect Earth's surface.

Geography – Year 7

Causes, impacts and responses to an atmospheric or hydrological hazard.

Activity: Glossary

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN Queensland Wild Weather story. Below are some words to get students started.

FLOOD	CYCLONE	RAINFALL
TROPICAL	CLIMATE	SEVERE WEATHER

Activity: Cyclone & Flood Research

Discuss the information raised in the BTN Queensland Wild Weather story. What questions were raised in the discussion and what are the gaps in students' knowledge? Students will develop their own question/s to research or choose one or more of the questions below. Encourage students to collect and record information from a wide variety of sources and present the information they find in an interesting way.

- What are floods? Investigate what flash floods and riverine floods are and what causes them. Compare and contrast flash floods and riverine floods.
- What damage can floods cause? In your own words, describe the damage floods can cause.
- How do floods affect people? Divide your response into the following categories: houses, services, and emotions. What are the immediate and long-term needs of people?
- What can people do before a flood to stay safe?
- Which areas in Australia do you think would be most at risk of flooding? Find a map of your local area and identify waterways near where you live and highlight the areas that would be most at risk of flooding.
- How do tropical cyclones form? Use a diagram to show how a cyclone forms.
- What tools help scientists to detect and categorise cyclones?
- How are cyclones tracked and measured? Describe and compare old and new discoveries.
- How do cyclone warnings help people prepare for a catastrophic natural disaster? Why is the early detection of cyclones important? Investigate how people can prepare for a cyclone.
- Why and how are cyclone names chosen? Watch this ABC Education video [How to name a cyclone](#) to learn more.
- Where in Australia do cyclones occur? Why? Create a map to show the regions in Australia affected by cyclones.

Further investigation

Find out more about Cyclone Jasper and Cyclone Kirrily and answer the following questions.

- Where did the cyclone form?
- Where did it travel? On a map mark where the cyclone travelled.
- What wind speed did the cyclone reach?
- What category was this cyclone?
- What damage did it cause inland?

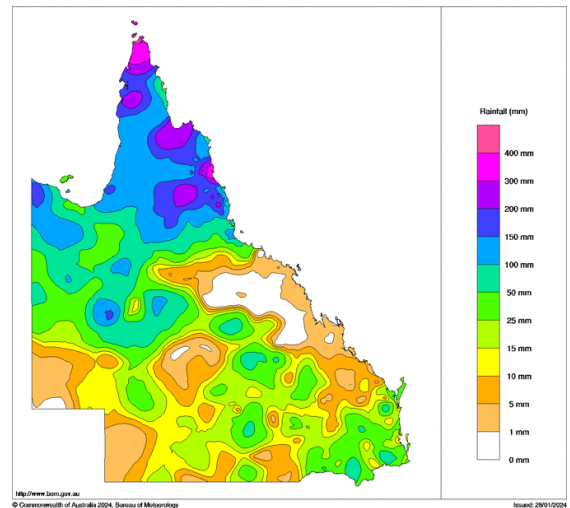
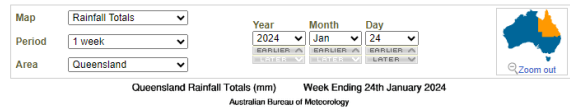
Cyclone in a Bottle

In this experiment, students will learn how air moves during a cyclone. They will identify the similarities and differences between the formation and features of cyclones and follow [these instructions](#) to create a 'cyclone in a bottle'.

Activity: Understanding rainfall

Students will start to think like a meteorologist and analyse this [map](#) produced by the Bureau of Meteorology. Students will then respond to the following questions:

- What features do you see on this map? Make a list.
- What does the map tell us?
- What does it measure?
- What area does it cover?
- What period of time does this map cover?
- What is the purpose of this map?
- Find a map which shows the total rainfall for Queensland a week prior, and a week later and then compare. What are your findings?



[BoM](#)

Further investigation

- What is rainfall?
- How is rainfall measured? What instruments are used to measure rainfall?
- Who measures rainfall?
- What is a rain gauge? Investigate and then create your own school rain gauge. Record the daily rainfall and calculate the average daily rainfall.

Visual Literacy

In this activity students will analyse a range of images which show the damage caused by the cyclones and floods in Queensland recently. Students will choose one or more of the images below and respond to the following:

- What is happening in the image? Create a caption for each image.
- How does the image make you feel?
- What does the image tell you about the impact floods and cyclones have on a community?
- What questions do you have about what you see in the image?



[ABC News](#)



[ABC News](#)



[ABC News](#)



[ABC News](#)

Useful Websites

- [Cyclone Kyrilly Aftermath](#) – BTN Newsbreak
- [Understanding Floods](#) – Bureau of Meteorology
- [Floods](#) – Geoscience Australia
- [Things you can do before a flood](#) – NSW SES
- [Cyclones Explained](#) - BTN
- [Cyclones: What you should do if disaster threatens](#) – ABC Emergency
- [Here's everything you need to know about cyclones](#) - ABC News
- [Tropical cyclone categories explained](#) - ABC News
- [Bureau of Meteorology](#) – Cyclones FAQ