



Teacher Resource

Flooded School

Focus Questions

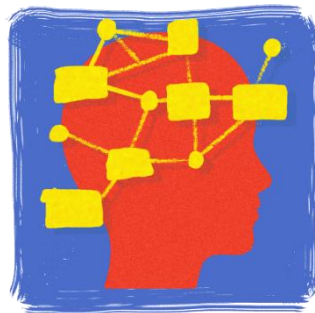
Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

1. Which states were affected by floods last year?
2. What impact have the floods had on Mypolonga?
3. How did Laine help out at her school during the floods?
4. In what year did the Murray River record its worst floods?
 - a. 1956
 - b. 1976
 - c. 1996
5. What questions do you have about the story?

Activity: Class Discussion

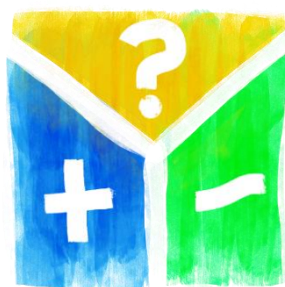
Discuss the BTN Flooded School story as a class. Create a class mind map with FLOODS in the middle. Use the following questions to guide discussion: Ask students to record what they know about floods. What questions do they have? In small groups, ask students to brainstorm responses to the following questions:

- What do you know about the floods in the Riverland?
- What has caused the flooding in the Riverland?
- What impact has the flooding had on the people?
- What questions do you have about the floods?



Activity: Note taking

Students will practise their note-taking skills while watching the BTN Flooded School 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

7th February 2023

KEY LEARNING

Students will investigate the impact of floods on people and places in Australia.

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 5 & 6

Scientific knowledge is used to solve problems and inform personal and community decisions.

Science – Year 6

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

Science – Year 7

Scientific knowledge has changed peoples' understanding of the world and is refined as new evidence becomes available.

Geography – Year 7

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

PLEASE NOTE: Talking about the floods may be upsetting for some children and may cause some discomfort, distress and/or anxiety. [BTN](#) has a short video about the Important Things to Remember about Upsetting News.

Activity: Cause and effect

This cause and effect diagram (also known as a fishbone diagram) is a useful tool which can help students identify causes for an effect or problem. The tool can be used during brainstorming sessions to record student's ideas. The tool also helps to sort student's ideas into useful categories.

Materials: Flipchart and marker or whiteboard.

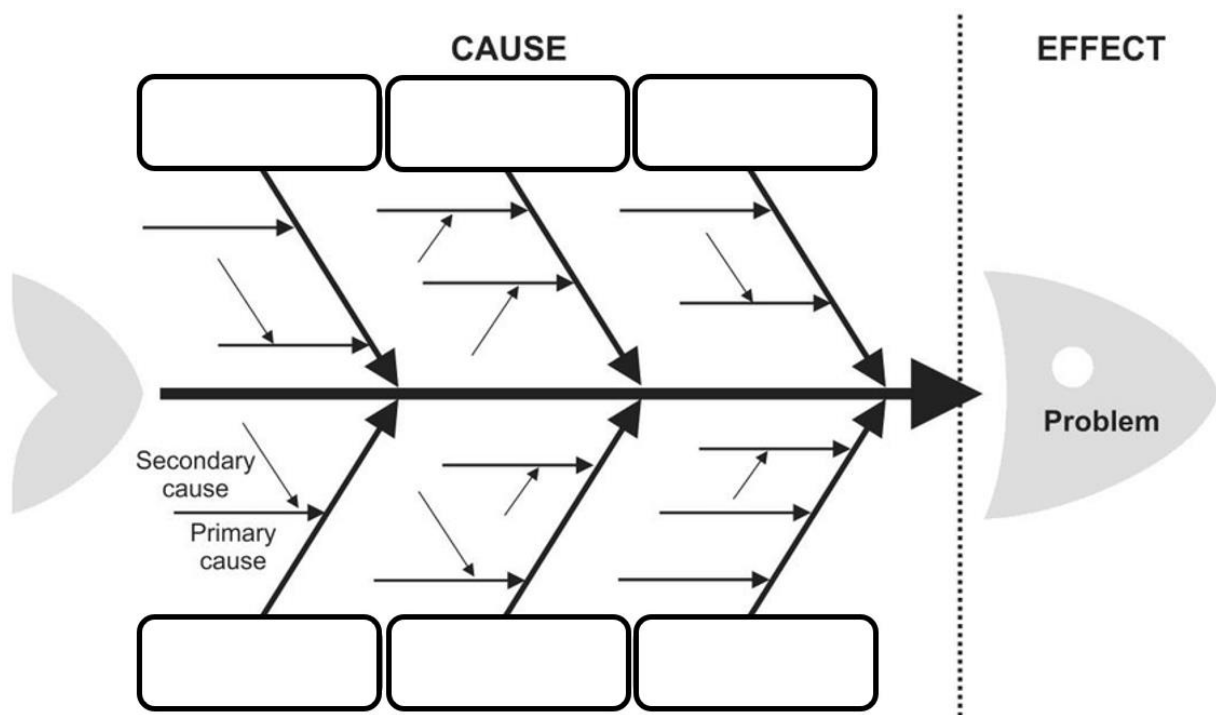
Categories: As a class brainstorm the major categories of causes of the problem. Useful categories for a Fishbone diagram about 'Flooding' could include:

- People
- Environment
- Animals
- Housing
- Roads
- Businesses

Effects: In small groups, students will then brainstorm the effects that flooding has had on these categories. Students can search for news articles and other publications to help with their research.

Solutions:

How can we protect our community from floods? Visit the [Australian Museum](https://www.australianmuseum.gov.au) website to learn more about what communities can do to protect their homes and businesses from floods. Find some examples of Indigenous knowledge practices that are useful for flood management (e.g., floodplains management).



Activity: Understanding floods

Watch these videos to help students understand more about weather, climate, and floods.



[BTN La Nina Explained](#)



[Big Weather: The Impact of Floods on Communities](#)



[BTN Weather Science](#)



[BOM – Understanding Floods](#)

Activity: Aboriginal Dreaming

Water has an important place in Dreaming stories in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. Dreaming stories pass on important knowledge, cultural values, and belief systems to later generations. Many sites of Dreaming significance are located along the Murray River.

Students will develop a deeper understanding of the connection Indigenous people have to water and the Murray River. Students will develop their own question/s to research or choose one of the questions below.

- How has the Murray River changed over time? Watch this BTN [River Kids](#) story to learn more. Explain in your own words why the Murray River is important to Ngarrindjeri people and how the Murray River has changed.
- What does Ngurunderi Dreaming explain? Students will practise their storytelling skills by taking it in turns to read the [Ngurunderi Dreaming story](#) aloud to the class.
- How was the Murray River made? Listen to this [Bangerang story](#) about how the Murray River was made. Find the Bangerang words for Murray River and water. Illustrate an aspect of this Dreaming story to present to the class.
- What Aboriginal Dreaming stories teach us about the importance of water? For example, the [Rainbow Serpent](#), Ponde or [Tiddalick](#). Compare and contrast these stories. Choose one to research in more detail and present your findings in an interesting way.

Activity: Mt Resilience

Students will visit Mt Resilience – an augmented reality experience that allows students to explore a town that's been designed around climate and disaster preparedness. The app works on both phones and tablets. Get the app [here](#). Go [here](#) to find out more about the technical specifications for the app.

Explore the features of Mt Resilience

Working in pairs, students will look around and explore Mt Resilience. Students will play the Mt Resilience experience to see how the community of Waterdown has worked together to mitigate the impact of extreme weather.

Students will then respond to the following:

- What are some of the things that the people of Waterdown can do to protect themselves from floods?
- How can the Government help the people of Waterdown recover from the floods?
- How does the community centre help the people of Waterdown?



Further Investigation

- How can emergency services help people in flood prone areas?
- What are floodplains?
- Create a community in Minecraft that includes a floodplain. How will you make the town resilient to floods?

Resources

- [How can a town manage floods and severe storms](#) – Australian Museum
- [Mt Resilience](#) – Australian Museum and ABC

Useful Websites

- [Understanding Floods](#) – Bureau of Meteorology
- [Floods](#) – BTN
- [Floods](#) – Geoscience Australia
- [Things you can do before a flood](#) – NSW SES