



**SERIES** Natural Disasters  
**TITLE** Floods in Australia  
**AUTHOR** John Lesley  
**PUBLISHER** Redback Publishing  
(Also online at [REDeBOOKS.com.au](http://REDeBOOKS.com.au))  
**PUBLICATION DATE** October 2024  
**ISBN** 978-1-922322-91-3  
**PRICE** \$29.99  
**FORMAT** Hardback, 277x223mm  
**EXTENT** 32 pages, full-colour  
**GENRE** Children's non fiction,  
Geography  
**AGE SUITABILITY** Interest age 7-12 years  
**READING AGE** Primary school years 3 to 6  
**BIC/CBMC** YPJT/D5N79

## ABOUT THE SERIES

Droughts, floods, cyclones and bushfires have influenced Australia for thousands of years. Some native plants and animals have even adapted to the unavoidable recurrence of these destructive forces of nature. How is climate change affecting these cycles of nature, and how are Australia's farms, cities and bushland affected?

## ABOUT THE BOOK

Drought occurs in natural cycles and is one of the forces of nature that have shaped Australia's landscapes. In this book, find out how Australia responds to drought, and how farmers and people in cities are all affected when a drought is declared.

Drought in Australia is the cause of much suffering and distress for the population, but it has also been a source of inspiration for poetry, songs, novels and folklore. It is a calamity that has to be endured, but its inevitability has been a source of new technology and forward planning that highlight the ingenuity people can display when faced with an inescapable disaster.

In the Special Report on the Millenium Drought of 1997-2010, this book details its causes and ongoing effects all across Australia.



## CONTENTS

What is Drought?  
Drought Declared!  
What Happens in a Drought?  
Bush and Drought  
What Happens After a Drought?  
Desalination Plants  
Climate Change and Drought  
El Niño

Federation Drought 1895-1902  
World War II Drought 1937-1945  
2017-2019 Drought  
SPECIAL REPORT: Millennium Drought  
1997-2010  
Future Droughts  
Glossary: Words About Drought  
Index



## TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS

Illustrations of actual drought conditions that have occurred all across Australia accompany a text that is written to be clear and appealing to young readers in middle to upper primary school. The choice of images extends the reader's comprehension of the topic in a way that words alone will not do.

The chapter on El Niño explains this complex subject so that children will understand what they are being told the next time a news story mentions this topic.

The Special Report on the Millennium Drought gives children an example of how to write a report that covers the facts, the effects on people, and the future impacts of a major event.



## IDEAS FOR THE CLASSROOM

### MAKE YOUR OWN DROUGHT RESILIENCE GUIDE

#### Aims of This Activity

- Investigate the main points that would help a person deal with a natural disaster such as a drought.
- Think about the type of media and presentation that would be most easily understood by the majority of the population.
- Understand the situations in which words can be a barrier to understanding.

#### Procedure

1. Go to pages 14, 15, 29 and 30 of Drought in Australia by John Lesley.
2. Read the information about how we can overcome the effects of drought.
3. Make your own guide based on the information you have read.
4. Talk about the best way to spread this information to the people who would need it.

### DISCUSS RECOVERY FROM A DROUGHT

#### Aims of This Activity

- Know what can help make a community resilient to natural disasters.
- Become aware that all experiences are not the same or of the same intensity.
- Help build resilience in children faced with natural disasters.

#### Procedure

1. Have a class discussion about what happens during and after a drought.
2. Discuss the outcomes for households, businesses and schools.
3. Talk about the effect on plants and animals in the wild, and compare that with the effect on farmers and their livestock and crops.
4. Discuss the mental effect that drought has on people.

## AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM

### YEAR 5

GEOGRAPHY (AC9HS5K05) management of Australian environments

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCES (AC9S5U02) weathering, erosion, transportation and deposition

SCIENCE (AC9S5H02) farming to withstand drought





## ALL TITLES IN THE REDBACK PUBLISHING SERIES NATURAL DISASTERS

TITLE	ISBN	RRP	QTY
<b>DROUGHT IN AUSTRALIA</b>	978-1-922322-91-3	\$29.99	
<b>BUSHFIRES IN AUSTRALIA</b>	978-1-922322-46-3	\$29.99	
<b>FLOODS IN AUSTRALIA</b>	978-0-994624-79-6	\$29.99	

<b>TRADE ORDERS</b>	Redback Publishing is distributed to the trade in Australia by Daintree Books <a href="http://www.daintreebooks.com.au">www.daintreebooks.com.au</a>
<b>SCHOOL ORDERS</b>	Please contact your favourite bookshop or library bookseller
<b>eBOOK</b>	Available via a REDeBOOKS subscription at <a href="http://www.redebooks.com.au">www.redebooks.com.au</a>

If you have any issues acquiring Redback Publishing's books, please contact us at [www.redbackbooks.com](http://www.redbackbooks.com)

