



from steaming heatwaves to teeming hail. The Bureau of Meteorology wonderful weather RECORDS.

N A CAPITAL: Tracy.

ANNUAL RAINFALL: 1,272mm
WINTER CAPITAL: A CAPITAL:

WESTER AUSTRALIA

NORTHERN TERRITORY

CLONCUNG LONGEST DAYS OVERCAST from 16:17 January

LAK KAT DRINK 125 per

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

VICTORIA WORST SINGLE-EVENT WIND on Saturday.

CLOUDIEST CAPITAL (DAILY): 6.4 hours
HIGHEST AVERAGE RAINY DAYS FOR A CAPITAL: 174km

highest WIND SPEED recorded 108km/h at LOW ISLAND Western Australia, in 1995

A CAPITAL: 1893
December 2: 38 billion

WINDIEST CITY: average 32km/h

DISASTER: storm, \$2.3 billion

WINTER CAPITAL: 47 for TEMPERATURE 971



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ABOUT THE BOOK

In *Australia's Wild Weird Wonderful Weather*, readers are introduced to the wide range of weather in Australia, with bite-size pieces of information presented alongside graphic illustrations to entice young readers. Older readers will enjoy the detailed explanations about everything weather, from what causes certain phenomena to reading weather maps, exploring the climate of the past and preparing for the climate of the future.

AUSTRALIA'S WILD WEIRD WONDERFUL WEATHER

WRITTEN BY **STEPHANIE OWEN REEDER** ILLUSTRATED BY **TANIA McCARTNEY**

LOWER PRIMARY

Content Description: The weather and seasons of places and the ways in which different cultural groups, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, describe them (ACHASSK032).

Pages 8 – 11 explore the seasons in Australia, including Aboriginal seasonal calendars.

- Are seasonal changes the same in different parts of Australia? For example, compare tropical northern Australia with temperate southern Australia.
- What are the main types of weather you experience where you live?

Create a seasonal calendar for your areas, similar to the one on pages 10 to 11 of *Australia's Wild Weird Wonderful Weather*.

- Include the animals, insects, birds and weather events that you experience at different times of the year where you live.

Content Description: Sort and record information and data, including location, in tables and on plans and labelled maps (ACHASS1036)

- Where does your drinking water come from?
- What rivers, streams, billabongs, dams and other waterways exist in your area?
- How often do you get frost, hail or snow?
- What water restrictions are in place in your area?

Create a brochure showing:

- The current water restrictions where you live
- Suggestions on how to conserve water

MIDDLE PRIMARY

Content Description: The use and management of natural resources and waste, and the different views on how to do this sustainably (ACHASSK090)

Pages 52 – 53 explore alternative energy sources. Research and identify renewable and non-renewable resources. Consider these questions:

- What is the difference between renewable and non-renewable resources?
- Which energy resources that we use on a daily basis are renewable?

Select one of the renewable resources produced or used where you live and research to find out the following things:

- Where does it come from?
- How is it used?
- Why should we use it rather than a non-renewable energy resource?
- Why is it important that we increase the use of renewables?

Present your findings as a poster, newspaper article, or blog post.

UPPER PRIMARY

Content Description: Interpret data and information displayed in a range of formats to identify, describe and compare distributions, patterns and trends, and to infer relationships (ACHASS1100)

- Research the most significant bushfire, drought, flood, cyclone or storm events that have occurred over the last 50–100 years in or near your town. Which type of natural disaster has occurred most often?
- Why is your area more vulnerable to such disasters?
- Create a wall chart using diagrams and illustrations to show:
 - The number of such events
 - The date on which they occurred
 - The number of people affected, including how many died
 - The number of buildings and/or the amount of land affected
 - The effect on animals and the environment.

Australia's Wild Weird Wonderful Weather deals with disastrous weather on pages 32–36. Discuss how fire and flood behaviours have changed over time, including:

- How they have changed?
- What has contributed to the higher incidence of these extreme weather events?
- What the implications are for living in Australia?
- How we can ameliorate those changes?
- What happens to the land during a bushfire, flood, drought or cyclone?
- What effect such devastating events have on vegetation, waterways and animals?
- The ways such events can have positive as well as negative effects on the environment.