Natural Disasters

Written by Hannah Reed

Level 19

Getting ready for reading

If possible, share a newspaper headline or television report of a current natural disaster. Ask the students to think of other natural disasters – list these on a chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of disaster</th>
<th>What it is</th>
<th>How does it affect people?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bush fire</td>
<td>Fire that is out of control in a forest or grassland</td>
<td>Burns their houses. Kills their animals. Can kill them.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Talking through the book

Give each student a copy of the book. Turn to the contents page. Read through the list of contents to ensure that all students know how to pronounce each of the words listed.

Reading the book

Students read the book individually while the teacher observes each student’s reading behaviours and prompts students to use cues to read unfamiliar words. The teacher may select an additional teaching focus based on these observations.

Returning to the text

Select the most appropriate teaching focus for the learning needs of the group. Choose one or more of the following.

Being a meaning maker

Encourage the students to support their answers with evidence from the book as they discuss these questions.

What are natural disasters?
How are they caused?
Which type of natural disaster do you think is the most dangerous? Why?
If there was an earthquake here, what is likely to happen?

TEXT FEATURES

• This book is an information report about a range of natural disasters caused by the weather and the movement of the earth’s crust.
• Colour photographs support and extend the text.
• Each natural disaster is defined.
• The text features a list of contents and an index.
**Being a code breaker**

Students may like to compare the plural and singular forms of words ending in ‘o’: tornado/tornadoes, volcano/volcanoes.

**Being a text user**

Discuss:
- What type of book is this? Fiction or factual?
- What from is it written in – report, explanation, procedure?
- What can you learn from this book?
- Does this book help you to know what to do in a natural disaster?

**Being a text critic**

Discuss:
- What did the author have to know to write this book?
- Does this book give information about all natural disasters?
- Is the information in the book accurate? How could this be checked?

**Literacy learning centres – follow-up activities**

🔍**WRITING CENTRE**

Students could choose one of the natural disasters in the book to write a first-hand report of a disaster as it occurs.

📝**TEXT CENTRE**

Students could reread the book and make a chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of disaster</th>
<th>What is it?</th>
<th>What does it do?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volcano</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tidal wave</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drought</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

≈**INTERACTIVE LITERACY CENTRE**

Students could work in cooperative pairs to make a quiz about natural disasters. Each pair could ask another pair their questions.

😊**WORD CENTRE**

Students could use dictionaries to investigate the spelling for plurals of other words ending in ‘o’: potato, tomato, mango, dingo.
Natural disasters often have severe consequences for many people and also for animals and plants. It usually also destroys buildings and thus leads to a loss of peoples’ homes. Due to the global warming issue, natural disasters will become more common in the future. Therefore, mankind has to be prepared to deal with these adverse events. In the following, the types, causes, effects, solutions and also examples concerning the natural disaster problem will be examined. Audio Lesson. Types of Natural Disasters. Geological. Information about natural disaster. Select the subjects you want to know more about on euronews.com. More about this topic. natural disaster. Spain. Natural disasters displaced three times more people than war in 2019. no comment. Black smoke spews out of Philippines volcano as Manila airport closes.