Lesson 7: Surviving Bushfires

**Content focus:**
In this lesson students develop an awareness of the actions they can take to protect themselves, other people and property in a bushfire emergency. It includes a focus of the actions individuals can take as responsible citizens.

**Resources:**
- Youtube videos:
  - Bush Fire Fact - Travel smart [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C6WJJe2Y9xQ] (58 seconds)
  - Bush Fire Fact - What to wear in a bushfire [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zbi1qieY5gU] (54 seconds)
  - Bush Fire Fact - Home defence equipment [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wk7qiQK0h-Gc] (60 seconds)
  - Bush Fire Fact - Know your risk [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUn7QFsD8eg] (60 seconds)
  - Bush Fire Fact - Preparing your yard [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KMPSPw5Wem0] (51 seconds)
  - Bush Fire Fact - Make your bush fire survival plan [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWaAR0ZcdGi] (63 seconds)
  - Bush Fire Fact - Preparing your land [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yd8-WL7Qbkl] (1 minute, 23 seconds)

- Worksheet 6: Surviving Bushfires

**Key inquiry question:**
- What do we need to do in order to protect life and property in the event of a bushfire?

**Outcomes:**
- A student:
  - demonstrates an awareness of the precautions they can take in protect life and property if caught in a bushfire emergency either indoors or outdoors.
  - identifies the precautions people can take to protect their homes in the event of a bushfire.

**Lesson sequence:**

**Step 1:** Introduce students to the theme of the lesson – Surviving bushfires. Use exposition and questioning to ascertain prior learning.

**Step 2:** Ask students to study Figure 1 on Worksheet 7. View Bush Fire Fact - Travel Smart and Bush Fire Fact - What to wear in a bushfire. As a class, discuss the actions you can take to protect yourself in the event of a bushfire both indoors and outdoors.

**Step 3:** Ask students to study Figure 2. Direct them to write a story. My family is caught in a bushfire while out driving. What should we do to protect ourselves?

**Step 4:** Ask students to study Figure 3 & 4. View the Youtube clips: Bush Fire Fact – Home defence equipment, Bush Fire Fact - Know your risk, Bush Fire Fact - Preparing your yard, Bush Fire Fact - Make your bush fire survival plan and Bush Fire Fact - Preparing your land. Have your students select either a suburban or rural-based property (which ever is the most relevant). Have them draw an annotated illustration of their home and highlight the ways in which they can protect it.

**Step 5:** Project-based activity.
Students are asked to complete ONE of the following:

a. Write a instruction manual outlining the actions you would encourage people to take in the event of a bushfire. Include procedures for: choosing appropriate clothing to wear; finding a safe place to stay during a bushfire; and ways of protecting your house in a bushfire.

b. Prepare a radio talk outlining fire safe procedures to carry out in the event of a bushfire.

c. Study Figures 3 and 4 and then write a letter to a neighbour outlining the actions they could take to protect their home in a bushfire.

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