

Australian Bushfires

Photo: A plane dropping powder on a fire to stop it from spreading.

- What are bushfires?
- How are people helping?
- What should I do if I'm upset by the news?

Bushfires have caused a lot of damage in parts of Australia. Lots of people and charities are helping those in the area.

Many people have had to leave their homes. Schools in the areas affected by the fires have been closed.

Some state governments have called a state of emergency. This gives firefighters extra powers to tackle the bushfires.

Thousands of firefighters are working in the area. They have come from Australia and even across the world.

Charities are also working hard to help those affected by the fires. They have set up centres for people who have had to be <u>evacuated</u>. These give support, food, water and <u>shelter</u> to people who have been affected by the fires.

Wildlife charities are also working to look after animals whose <u>habitats</u> have been damaged by the fire.

Read the full article online here.

What Are Bushfires?

Bushfires are large, uncontrolled fires which can happen in the Australian bushland.

It can be very hot and dry here. Plants, such as bushes grow but not many people live there.



Bushfires can have some natural causes. Lightning can spark fires.

They can also be caused by human accidents, such as barbecues, campfires or fallen electricity pylons.



Bushfires can cause serious problems, damaging farms and homes.

Firefighters in these areas are specially trained to deal with bushfires.

natural accidents specially





Use a map or atlas to find the Australian bushland.



What do you know about the Australian bushland?



How Are People Helping?

Lots of people are working hard to help. Firefighters have been given extra powers to help tackle the fires.





They are using helicopters to drop water on the fires.

They are also dropping pink powder. This is designed to stop the fire from spreading.

Various charities are also working to help people.
They have set up centres to support people.

These offer support, shelter, food and water.



Across the world, people have decided to give money to help firefighters and the charities involved.

various centres decided





Work with a group to come up with ways you could help raise money.



What could your community do to help?



What Should I Do If I'm Upset by the News?

difficult often remember



Some of the things we see or hear in the news can be difficult or upsetting.

It's normal to feel upset or worried about the news. Adults often do as well.

Talking to a trusted adult can help you to feel safe and help you think of things you can do if you feel worried or upset.



Remember that terrible things are very rare — that's why they're in the news.

Drawing or writing about your worries might also help you to understand your emotions.



Ask yourself how you can help. When you help others, you often feel better yourself.



Learn more about what to do if the news upsets you here.



What do you do when you feel upset?





Word	Definition
emergency	A serious situation which often needs people to take action quickly.
evacuated	Removed from a place of danger to a safer space.
shelter	Places that give protection from bad weather or danger.
habitats	The natural home or environment of animals or plants.

