

EXTREME WEATHER

Lesson Plan

Staying Safe

Lesson Plan for *Wildfires*

Grade 4

Objective

To help students identify details in a book about wildfires that provide reasons and evidence for wildfire safety tips.

Things Needed:

- *Wildfires* book

Before the Activity

Have students read the *Wildfires* book.

Activity

Open the book to page 31 and have students look at the Wildfire Safety Checklist. Each of these six tips is based on details from the book's main text. Use the following prompts to help readers evaluate why the book's author included each one:

- What facts from the book explain why it's important to check the fire danger rating in your area? (Answer: Page 28 says, "This system tells people how likely a wildfire is. When the danger rating is high, people must be extra careful.")
- What facts from the book explain why it's important to make sure campfires are fully put out? (Answer: Page 8 says, "Most wildfires are caused by people. For example, people may not fully extinguish a campfire.")
- What facts from the book explain why it's important to keep important items in a fireproof box and evacuate if needed? (Answer: Page 18 says, "A wildfire can burn almost everything in its path." Page 24 says, "Sometimes these fires spread into towns and cities.")
- What facts from the book explain why it's important to stay inside and wear a mask? (Answer: Page 20 says, "This smoke has tiny parts of materials that burned in the fire. These parts are dangerous to breathe in. The smoke can cause heart problems. It can also damage people's lungs.")



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- What facts from the book explain why it's important to listen for weather updates?
(Answer: Page 24 says, "Wildfires can start suddenly and spread quickly. Communities send out warnings if a wildfire is nearby.")

Evaluation

Could students identify why each safety tip was important? Did they refer to specific facts or details from the book in their answers?

Standards

This lesson plan may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 4 (RI 4.8).



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