



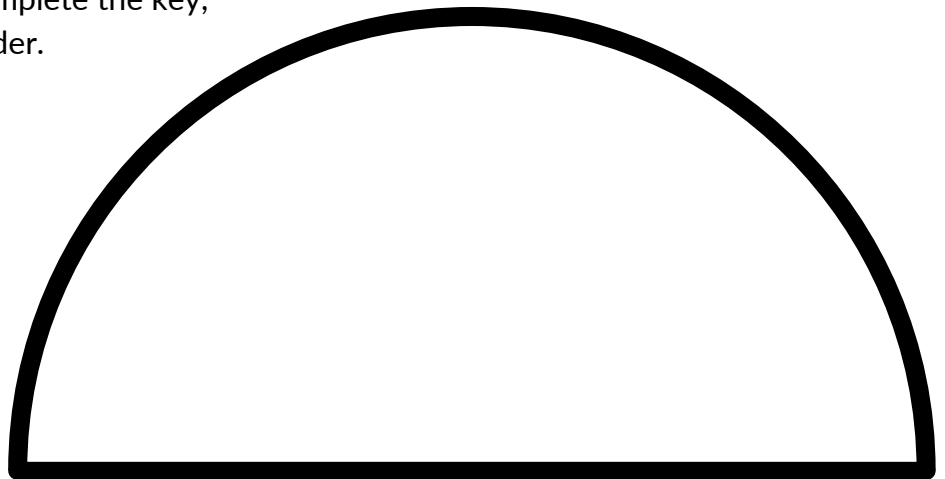
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Bushfires

1. Time to create a fire danger rating sign. Divide the semi-circle into four (if you want to get really fancy, use a protractor). Then complete the key, and put the correct colours in order.

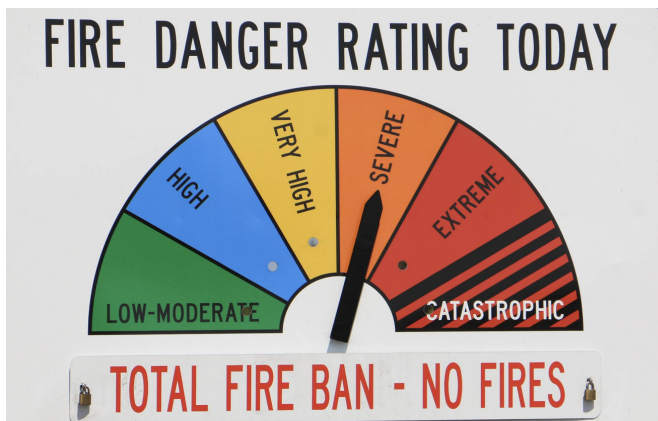
- Moderate
- High
- Extreme
- Catastrophic



2. What do the fire danger rating signs tell the public? Tick the correct box.

- The likelihood that a fire will start on that particular day
- How bad the damage will be, if a fire starts on that particular day (because fires can start at any time)
- How much the weather is affecting fire danger that day

3. Imagine that you are explaining to an elderly neighbour the changes from the old signs (below) to the new. Tell them what's different, and why it's important.



These old signs started being replaced in September



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4. Explain **why** indigenous Australians are being asked to help with preventing catastrophic bushfires, and **what** they are doing to help.

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5. The Bushfire Survival Plan linked to in your episode notes has four steps. Step One is to have a family discussion about what to do if a bushfire starts, and documenting the plan. At the end, every family member is supposed to sign the document. One adult in your family thinks it's too scary to involve kids in planning for a bushfire. Do you think they're right? Why or why not?



6. Look through the three pages of materials from the Bushfire Survival Plan (on the next page). People who live on rural properties in bushfire-prone areas have a lot to do! Your job is to create a simple poster (on the reverse of the next page) that can be displayed around town, convincing people to learn more and prepare. What kind of colours, pictures, words, and messages will get them to act? Once you've finished your poster, explain your choices below.

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## STEP 2: PREPARE YOUR HOME AND GET READY THE TOP 5 ACTIONS TO MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER

There are some simple things you can do around your home to prepare it for a bush fire. You need to prepare well beforehand as leaving it to the last minute is too late.

Here are five simple things you can do before and during the bush fire season.



### 1. TRIM

Trim overhanging trees and shrubs. This can stop the fire spreading to your home.



### 2. MOW

Mow grass and remove the cuttings. Have a cleared area around your home.



### 3. REMOVE

Remove material that can burn around your home (e.g. Door mats, wood piles, mulch, leaves, paint, outdoor furniture).



### 4. CLEAR

Clear and remove all the debris and leaves from the gutters surrounding your home. Burning embers can set your home on fire.



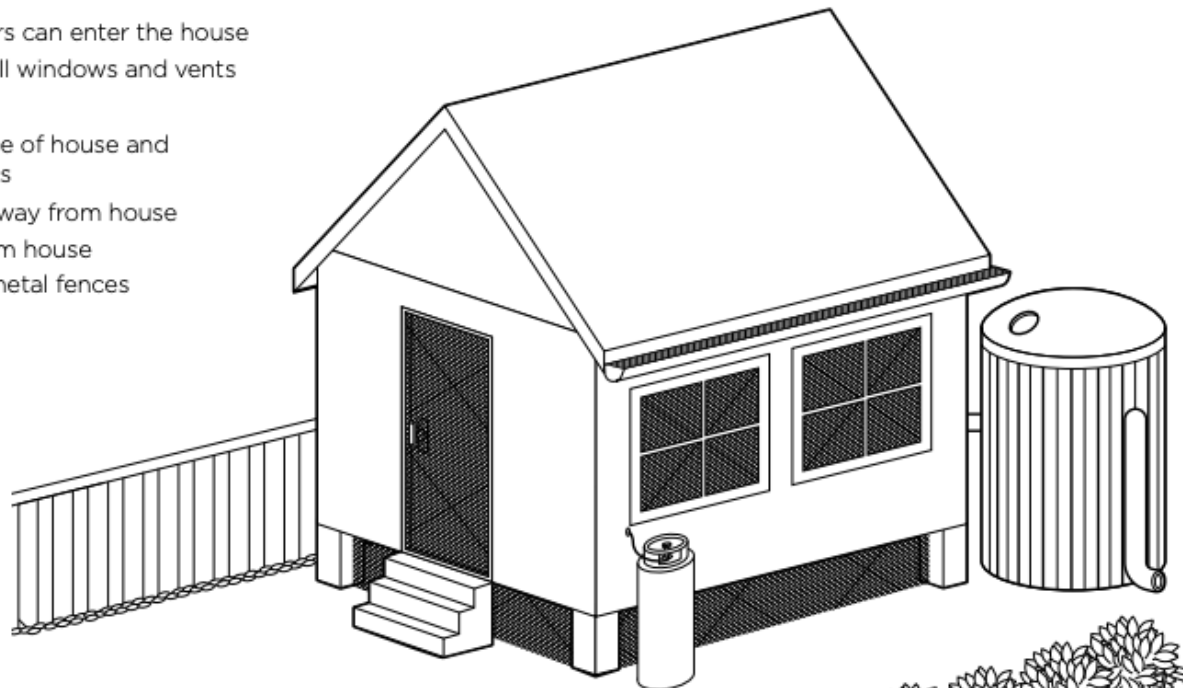
### 5. PREPARE

Prepare a sturdy hose or hoses that will reach all around your home. Make sure you've got a reliable source of water.

## MORE PERMANENT PROTECTION FOR YOUR HOME

### Tick as you complete

- Block up areas where embers can enter the house
- Install metal fly screens on all windows and vents
- Install metal gutter guards
- Position gas cylinders on side of house and away from trees and gardens
- Direct any pressure valves away from house
- Move garden beds away from house
- Replace wood fences with metal fences
- Use stones instead of mulch



## PREPARE YOUR RURAL PROPERTY

### Tick as you complete

- Remove overhanging branches from power lines
- Ensure that a fire tanker can access your property
- Clear fire breaks along paddock boundaries
- Store petrol, diesel and gas away from home
- Keep a well-maintained area around the home and sheds
- Place water pipes from dams underground and install pump to the house
- Make sure hoses have spray nozzles
- Keep water tanks full and connect them to pumps

# My Poster

