



NEW RESOURCES – Videos for North West Bushfire Patrol



The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES), in partnership with Parks and Wildlife Service (PAWS) are excited to announce the release of a new series of student videos. The videos supplement the recently released North West Bushfire Patrol school education resource. They accompany the [Years 4-6](#) modules and are located on the DFES School Aged Education webpage and on [YouTube](#).

The *'Leaders in Fire'* videos provide students with an opportunity to hear from community members who work in fire management. Students learn about some of the skills, knowledge and equipment required when taking responsibility for fire management.

The *'Bushfires in the Community'* videos provide students with an opportunity to hear from community members about their bushfire experiences and knowledge.

While developed specifically for Kimberley students, they are more than suitable for viewing by both primary and high school students throughout the state. The videos are also a useful tool when addressing *Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander* and *Sustainability* cross curriculum priorities.

EDUCATION AND HERITAGE CENTRE EXCURSIONS – Firefighters lend a helping hand



Firefighters from Perth 1st Fire Station often assist the School Aged Education team at the DFES Education and Heritage Centre. These firefighters are 'subject matter experts' when it comes to home fire safety and emergency helpers in the community. Firefighter Wallis from Perth 1st Fire Station often attends the Centre to volunteer his time with school excursions and says that he "loves to meet and educate children who are very enthusiastic about fire safety within their homes."

DFES provides interactive excursions at the Centre, which build disaster resilience in young people. The excursions contain important and age-appropriate safety messages. Students will enjoy the engaging and sensory learning environment of the Centre - climbing into a firetruck, listening to the smoke alarm, holding a firehose and modelling how to safely exit a house in case of a fire. We provide teachers with pre and post-visit curriculum linked activities to enrich and support the excursion's key learnings. Excursions are suitable for primary school students, Education Support Units, home school groups and self-guided options are available for year 11 students.

We have limited dates available in Term 3, however, there are still places in Term 4. Contact your friendly School Aged Education Officers to book your FREE excursion. You may just meet a Firefighter from Perth 1st Fire Station! Email educationandheritage@dfes.wa.gov.au, or call **6424 1512** to make a booking.

EMERGENCY WA – A useful classroom resource



Have you visited [EmergencyWA](#) recently? Did you even know it existed? Launched in October 2016, EmergencyWA is a multi-hazard website, which gives people up to date access to emergency information and critical community warnings, including map-based warning areas. The site delivers a live feed of emergency incidents reported to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services. This means people can find out about a fire or other incidents as soon as they are reported to triple zero. EmergencyWA is a tool that can be used by children to access important information relevant to their safety and wellbeing. Children can easily be taught how to access and navigate the

site to find local information. As well as providing up to date information about incidents and warnings, students can access the current Fire Danger Rating and Total Fire Bans for their area.

The site is interactive, colour coded and easy to use. There are multiple curriculum opportunities that allow you to incorporate the teaching of this website into your classroom lessons. In primary schools these can include '*Being healthy, safe and active*' (Health and Physical Education), '*Technologies and society*' (Design and Technologies) and '*Science as a human endeavour*' (Science). In high school these can include Year 8 and 11 Geography units, among others.

Please visit the site and let us know how you use this tool in your classroom lessons.

HOUSE FIRES – Prevention is always best



Working smoke alarms are critical for detecting smoke from fires so you and your family can exit your house early and safely. Fortunately most fires are actually preventable and prevention is always the best option when it comes to house fires.

This [video](#) shows you some of the more common ways house fires start and just how quickly they can spread.



With winter here and temperatures plummeting, families are firing up their heaters and reaching for electric blankets to keep away the cold. This means it's a great time of the year to discuss with students simple ways to prevent fires in their homes.

Here are some handy tips for preventing home fires:

- Keep all items at least 1 metre away from heat sources like fires and heaters
- Never charge phones or tablets on or near beds or other soft furnishings
- Never leave cooking unattended
- If children find matches or lighters, they should always hand them to a responsible adult
- Never leave candles lit and unattended
- Never overload power boards

Instruct your students to go home one evening and conduct a home fire audit. Encourage them to check their home to see if these prevention tips are in action. Be sure to get students to finish off the home audit by checking their smoke alarms are in working order. Mum or Dad will be needed to assist with this one!

DISASTER RESILIENCE EDUCATION IN ACTION – Exploring Emergency Services

In the last week of Term Two, Pemberton District High School Year 7 students took part in a week long 'Exploring Emergency Services' program. This fantastic initiative was a unique joint program between the school and the Lower South West Department of Fire and Emergency Services staff and local volunteer brigades. Read more in this Manjimup-Bridgetown Times [article](#).

Contacts

For excursion bookings at DFES' Education and Heritage Centre phone: (08) 9395 9866

For all other school enquiries call: (08) 9395 9816

Website: <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/schooleducation/Pages/default.aspx>

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Government of Western Australia
Department of Fire & Emergency Services



