

Electricity & Safety Unit

Teachers notes - Lesson 2 - Slide 7

Outside storm safety

Danger	Play it safe action	Action	Why?	Teacher's note
Fallen power line	8m clearance around the power line.	Stay at least 8m away from any fallen power line and anything it might be touching	Fallen powerlines are very dangerous. Do not touch fallen powerlines. Run and tell an adult straight away.	Explanation of conductivity and how electricity could potentially conduct through/ along objects fallen power lines may be touching. Provide examples of how long 8m is. For example, one third of a netball court.
Child holding an umbrella in a storm	Child moves to the house in background with face showing through the window.	Find cover in a house or other forms of shelter such as a shopping centre.	Electrical storms can be very dangerous. You need to find shelter as soon as possible.	Explanation of conductivity and how electricity could potentially conduct through/ along objects such as houses, sheds and other infrastructure. When lightning is around, children should not touch the walls, windows or electrical appliances such as computers or TV's.

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Child standing under a tree	Boy moves away from the tree and crouches on the lowest part of the ground.	Do not stand under a tree, find shelter. If you can't find shelter, then find the lowest part of the ground and crouch down low.	Lightning can cause trees to fall during electrical storms. Lightning can also strike a tree and electricity could conduct through the tree due to its water content.	Explanation of conductivity and how electricity could potentially conduct through trees due to its water content. The tree is also a good conductor of electricity as it stands higher than most objects therefore is a close path to earth. For example, the lightning will be more attracted to a tree rather than a dog kennel.
Swollen creek	Danger sign – do not swim.	Do not swim in flooded rivers, creeks or drains during or after a storm. They could hide fallen power lines.	Swimming in flooded rivers, creeks or drains can be very dangerous because you might not be able to see what is under the surface. There could be live power lines or debris such as tree stumps that may have fallen during the storm.	Explanation of conductivity and how water is a conductor of electricity. It has been found that electricity can travel between 150 metres to 200 metres in water.