



# 10 During a Storm



## Lesson Number: 10B - Make Lightning

Year Level:  
3-5

5Es:  
Elaborate

Curriculum Links:  
English, Science

**Lesson Number: 10B****Make Lightning****Theme: During a Storm**

In this story the key message is that it is best to stay inside during severe weather. Tucka is standing under a tree and refuses to cross the road to the hardware store. It's raining and he may get wet. Bob stresses that it is dangerous to shelter under trees during severe weather, but Tucka isn't convinced. He is perfectly safe where he is. Bob points out that lightning is likely to strike trees as they are so tall, and if Tucka is underneath one when that happens, he may be hurt. Tucka realises the possible danger, and agrees to join Bob on the porch of the hardware store.

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**What students will 'Know and Do':**

Students will understand what lightning is and be able to experiment with the concept and elaborate on how it is conducted and why.

1. View the *Li'L Safety Club Natural Disasters* advertisement - **During a Storm**
2. As a class, discuss the key messages of the advertisement (listed above).
3. Introduce the term 'lightning'. Refer to **Background Information: Lightning**. If possible, view the YouTube video/s of a lightning strike (see Useful resources).
4. Ask students to say what they know about lightning, for example, what it looks like, sounds like, among other comments. Write these responses on the board or a large sheet of paper. These assumptions are to be tested.
5. As a class, the students will conduct an experiment to discover how simple electricity is formed. Refer to the instructions on *Weather Wiz Kids*\*: [www.weatherwizkids.com/experiments-lightning.htm](http://www.weatherwizkids.com/experiments-lightning.htm). Remember that safety in the classroom is paramount and teachers should practice the experiment before trying it with their students.
6. Check out the *Monash University Primary Science Teaching Resources* for experiments for Earth Science: Lightning: [www.sciencecentre.monash.edu.au/ptr/lessons/how.html](http://www.sciencecentre.monash.edu.au/ptr/lessons/how.html)
7. Additional information can be found at the *SciTech*, WA: Education resources: Night light [www.scitech.org.au/images/stories/professional\\_learning/energy\\_everywhere\\_booklet\\_final.pdf](http://www.scitech.org.au/images/stories/professional_learning/energy_everywhere_booklet_final.pdf)
8. Students are to conduct two experiments and write these up as formal experiments to understand what the reaction was and how it relates to their understanding of electricity.
9. As a class, discuss the dangers of lightning during a storm. Ask students to make a list of safe practice tips for when lightning is present (see *SES Tasmania: Lightning Action Guide* in Useful resources for help).

\* Note: The *Weather Wiz Kids* experiment is provided with all lesson plans (10A-C) as an introduction to electricity. If students have already completed this experiment, as an alternative, discuss the process and outcomes as a class.

**Useful resources:**

- Monash University Primary Science Teaching Resources for experiments for Earth Science: Lightning: [www.sciencecentre.monash.edu.au/ptr/lessons/how.html](http://www.sciencecentre.monash.edu.au/ptr/lessons/how.html)
- SciTech, WA: Education resources: Night light: [www.scitech.org.au/images/stories/professional\\_learning/energy\\_everywhere\\_booklet\\_final.pdf](http://www.scitech.org.au/images/stories/professional_learning/energy_everywhere_booklet_final.pdf)
- Lightning Strikes! [www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qu2o00X2ZA0&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qu2o00X2ZA0&feature=related)
- Man Struck By Lightning [www.youtube.com/watch?v=pCTpEOPX\\_mA&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pCTpEOPX_mA&feature=related)
- Kids' lightning information and safety: [www.kidslightning.info/](http://www.kidslightning.info/)

- Kids Storm, Lightning:  
<http://skydiary.com/kids/lightning.html>
- Teaching Earth and Atmospheric Science with the Kids Crossing website, A Guide for Educators, Colorado:  
<http://eo.ucar.edu/webweather/lightning.html>
- SES Tasmania: public Safety Advice: Lightning Action Guide  
[www.ses.tas.gov.au/public\\_safety-advice/lightning\\_action\\_guide.htm](http://www.ses.tas.gov.au/public_safety-advice/lightning_action_guide.htm)
- SES ACT, Safety: Weather, storms and flooding: Storm tracking – Lightning strikes  
[www.esa.act.gov.au/ESAWebsite/content\\_ses/weather\\_page/weather.html](http://www.esa.act.gov.au/ESAWebsite/content_ses/weather_page/weather.html)

Student Activity Sheet: 10B	Make Lightning	Years 3-5
Theme: <u>During a Storm</u>		
Name:		
Class:		

1. Follow the instructions of your teacher in conducting the experiment/s.
2. Write up the experiment by answering the following questions:

**WHAT IS LIGHTNING?**


**MATERIALS:**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**PROCESS:**

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\_\_\_\_\_

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**EXPLANATION:**
