



NATURAL HAZARDS Children's Program



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Primary school teachers receive wild weather teaching resource

A schools resource developed by SES Agencies in partnership with the Australian Children's Television Foundation (ACTF) will be distributed to every primary school across Australia this week. The kit is an important part of the SES Li'L Larikkins natural hazards safety program, which aims to educate young children on the dangers of floods, storms, cyclones and tsunamis.

In November last year, a national awareness and education campaign of 10 x 30 second television commercials was launched to create awareness about being prepared for natural hazards, using characters from the Li'L Larikkins 3D animation series.* The schools resource (DVD-ROM) incorporates these messages with more than 30 lesson plans and activity sheets, specific background information and a comprehensive listing of additional resource material.

The program, funded through the Attorney-General's Department (AGD) 2010-2011 National Emergency Management Program, complements the work emergency service agencies around Australia undertake in delivering community education, awareness and engagement programs to increase community preparedness for these events.

The recent flooding in many States and cyclonic activity in the northern part of Australia are strong reminders that activities to increase awareness and educate young people are vital. Programs focused on generational change will help ensure communities of the future are more resilient and better prepared.

The influence of children as household advocates has been well demonstrated in other community focused programs. These safety messages and the schools resource information will help educate children, giving them age appropriate actions to follow and develop with their families.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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**Li'L Larikkins is a 3D animation series created by Leigh O'Brien and produced by the Ettamogah Group, in Melbourne Australia.*