Agency experts supporting bush fire disaster resilience education for Primary school students: A case study in NSW

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NSW Stage 3 students (Years 5 & 6) study how bush fire affects people, place and the environment. NSW RFS Member experts support Teachers to deliver education outcomes and disaster resilience education (DRE) activity. However, there is no understanding of the enablers and barriers to consistent, sustained and quality support from Members.

This Project will identify and explore in-depth the DRE practices being applied by classroom teachers, the contribution of NSW RFS experts to the classroom, and what DRE learning outcomes can be attributed to those NSW RFS experts.

CLOSING THE RESEARCH KNOWLEDGE GAP

Authentic experts can support and enhance student learning. The extent to which NSW RFS Member experts contribute to student learning is not being measured.

SENDAI FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Children and youths are agents of change and should be given the space and modalities to contribute to disaster risk reduction, in accordance with legislation, national practice and educational curricula.

THE FOUR TOUCHPOINTS FOR NSW RFS MEMBER EXPERTS WHEN SUPPORTING STAGE 3 GEOGRAPHY

1. Planning stages developing the focus and driving questions
2. At the start to provide an overview of bush fires to the Stage 3 cohort
3. During the Unit reflecting on issues, problems and solutions
4. End of Unit Showcase to other students, parents and the community

STAGE 3 CLASSROOM CASE STUDIES ABOUT:

- in-depth information from teachers, students, parents
- the contribution of NSW RFS Members to the immediate knowledge and learning
- the retention of knowledge for Year 5 students a year later when in Year 6
- the application of student learning if the School is directly or indirectly affected by a bush fire

EMERGENCY SERVICES BENEFITS:

- Relevance for agencies whose expert Members are engaged with school teachers and students
- The findings about the value that Agency Experts add to teacher delivered, Syllabus based disaster resilience education
- Applicability for any natural hazards

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