5.3 WHAT CAN BE DONE TO PREVENT WILDFIRES?



Aim

To understand the measures that can help to prevent wildfires.

Description

In areas affected by wildfires, it is important for all agencies to collaborate to help prevent wildfires. Many agencies have a role to play.

Linked units

- Unit 1: Understanding your environment and climate change
- Unit 2: History of wildfires
- Unit 3 and 4: Fire ecology
- Unit 5: Preparedness
- Unit 6: Response
- Unit 8: Aftermath of a wildfire

Type of results

- Posters / Infographic
- Presentations.
- Classroom discussion.

Material you may need

- Computer with internet and/or access to a library or video library.
- Projector.
- Communications equipment

Scope of impact

- Household
- Classroom.
- Community.

Professions related to the topic

- Risk Manager
- Firefighter.
- Police Officer
- Environmental Planner
- Forest Manager
- Meteorologist
- Community leader / politician

Activity: Understand the measures that can help to prevent wildfires.

These include:

Landscape management - including controlled burning, firebreaks and forest thinning.

Creating fire resisting structures and a defensible space around properties

Power line maintenance

Fire Safety regulations and Building Codes

Public education

Early Warning Systems and monitoring

Weather prediction modeling

Community Response Plans and evacuation routes

Firefighting resources - equipment and personnel

Tasks

- 1. In small groups, carry out desktop research or visit each of the various agencies involved and research the steps they take to prevent wildfires. (group)
- 2. Share and discuss the results of your research with the classroom. Identify differences in priorities between the various agencies (group)
- 3. The results of your research can be presented in many ways. Prepare a short video or prepare a poster or an infographic outlining the fire prevention measures you would recommend for your locality (group)
- 4. Share this research with your family, friends, and the local community! (group)