

Literacy Homework: Diary Entry – Surviving Extreme Weather

Imagine you are a child experiencing an extreme weather event. This could be:

- A hurricane
- A tornado
- A flood
- A blizzard
- A heatwave
- A thunderstorm
- A wildfire

Write a diary entry describing what happened before, during and after the event.

Success Criteria (SC)

I can:

- ✓ Write in the first person (I, me, my)
- ✓ Include a date and diary-style introduction
- ✓ Describe my thoughts and feelings
- ✓ Use powerful adjectives and verbs
- ✓ Include examples of figurative language (similes, metaphors or personification)
- ✓ Use time conjunctions (Later, Suddenly, Eventually, Meanwhile)
- ✓ Organise events in chronological order
- ✓ Use correct punctuation and paragraphs

Beginning

- Where were you?
- What was the weather like at first?
- Did anyone warn you about the approaching weather?

Middle

- What happened when the extreme weather arrived?
- What could you see, hear and feel?
- How did you react?
- What happened to your home, school or community?

End

- What happened when the weather passed?

- How did you feel afterwards?
- What did you learn from the experience?

Powerful Vocabulary

Adjectives	Verbs	Feelings Vocabulary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ferocious • terrifying • violent • roaring • freezing • scorching • destructive • powerful • relentless • dangerous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • howled • battered • crashed • swept • trembled • surged • flooded • whipped • raged • engulfed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • anxious • worried • petrified • relieved • shocked • overwhelmed • exhausted • grateful • frightened • hopeful

Sensory Language	Figurative Language Examples
<p>What could you hear?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • thunder booming • wind howling • rain hammering against the windows • trees creaking and snapping <p>What could you see?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dark swirling clouds • sheets of rain • rising floodwater • flying debris <p>What could you feel?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • icy wind stinging my face 	<p>Similes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wind screamed like a wild animal. • The rain fell like thousands of tiny bullets. <p>Metaphors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The storm was a raging monster. • The sky became a blanket of darkness. <p>Personification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The angry clouds marched across the sky.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● the ground trembling beneath my feet● sweat dripping down my back● my heart pounding in my chest | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The wind clawed at the trees. |
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Challenge ★

Can you include:

- A rhetorical question?
- Three examples of figurative language?
- Expanded noun phrases (e.g. *the enormous, swirling storm cloud*)?
- Fronted adverbials (e.g. *Without warning, Later that evening, To my surprise,*)?

Remember: A good diary entry should make the reader feel as though they were there experiencing the extreme weather with you! 🌀🌊🌩️🔥❄️