

eXplore

# **INFERNO!**

**The Nymboida Bushfires**

Izzy Weeks

**KNOWLEDGE  
BOOKS**

**27**

**Reading Recovery Level:** 16

**Word Count:** 830

**Content:** Personal Recount

**ACARA F-10 References:**

**Learning Areas:**

English; Humanities and Social Sciences; Science; Health and Physical Education.

**General Capabilities:**

Literacy; Critical and Creative Thinking; Personal and Social Capability.

**Cross Curriculum Priorities:**

Sustainability; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures.

**SAMPLE**  
**www.kbs.com.au**

explore

# INFERNO!

The Nymboida Bushfires

Izzy Weeks

SAMPLE  
www.kbs.com.au

KNOWLEDGE  
BOOKS

27

**Teacher Notes:**

Bushfires have become an even bigger threat to Australian communities and wildlife over the last few years. Izzy's story about her own bushfire experience in her sleepy little village of Nymboida in Northern NSW tells just how frightening and destructive these fires can be. But her story is also one of hope and positivity and how the kindness of strangers can make such a huge difference in helping people to rebuild their homes and lives again.

**Discussion points for consideration:**

1. Talk about a bushfire experience in your local area – what effects did it have on the community and the wildlife? Why is it important to talk about these events?
2. Why are bushfires becoming more intense and destructive?
3. Explore the tradition of Aboriginal mosaic burning. How might this tradition help reduce the impact of bushfires in the future?

**Difficult words to be introduced and practised before reading this book:**

November, inferno, bushfire, village, Nymboida, holidays, dizzy, worried, belongings, Aboriginal, tradition, mosaic, intense, believe, wearily, horrible, destroyed, twisted, native, kangaroos, wallabies, donations, community, victims.

**Acknowledgement of the First Nations' People:**

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

**Sensitivity Notice:**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are warned that the following series may contain images – photographs and illustrations and text about deceased persons.

## Contents

---

1. The Calm Before the Firestorm
2. A Bad Feeling
3. Evacuate!
4. The Worst News
5. Destruction Everywhere!
6. A Slow Recovery
7. A Helping Hand



QUEENSLAND

■ Gold Coast

NEW  
SOUTH  
WALES

Lymborea

■ Coffs Harbour

■ Port Macquarie

SAMPLE  
www.kbs.com.au

■ Newcastle

▲  
N

100 km

■ Sydney



SAMPLE  
www.kbs.com.au

## **1. The Calm Before the Firestorm**

November 8th, 2019 started out like any other day. It was a hot morning in my village of Nymboida in Northern NSW. Summer had come early.

The wildlife was out and about. The birds were chirping. It wasn't long before school was finished for the year.

SAMPLE  
www.kbs.com.au





I went to school thinking about the school holidays. I planned to do lots of things with my friends and family.

I was very busy in class all morning. The bell rang for lunch. It was time for a break with my friends. I made my way out the door to a very scary sight.

SAMPLE  
www.kbs.com.au



## 2. A Bad Feeling

The sky was a deep, orange colour. There was no blue at all. I had never seen anything like it before.

The smoke was like a thick blanket. It covered everything. I started feeling dizzy and a bit sick. It gave me a bad feeling.

SAMPLE  
www.kbs.com.au



We found a spot to have lunch. I kept looking at the orange sky. The bad feeling seemed to grow.

Then, a text came through from Mum. The Nymboida Rural Fire Service was telling everyone to leave their homes.

**SAMPLE**  
**www.kbs.com.au**

Free ●

Izzy, there's a bushfire coming and we have to evacuate! I'll pick you up after school.  
Love Mum

www.kbs.com.au

honor