

Australia's Extreme Weather — Knowledge Organiser

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Key facts

- Australia experiences extreme weather: droughts, floods, cyclones and heatwaves.
- Northern Australia can be hit by tropical cyclones in summer.
- Long droughts can dry out the land for years.
- Heavy rains can then cause sudden floods.

Key vocabulary

- Drought — a long dry period.
- Cyclone — a powerful spinning storm with strong winds.
- Flood — when water covers normally dry land.
- Heatwave — a long spell of very hot weather.

Boom and bust

Australia often swings between too little water (drought) and too much (floods). People and wildlife have to cope with these big swings.

Staying prepared

Communities watch warnings, prepare emergency plans, and build to cope with floods and storms.