



# Discovery Worksheets

## Storm sounds

Storms are the most common natural hazard in Australia. They have different effects across the country depending on the time of year and the prevailing climatic conditions. They break droughts, start bushfires and end heatwaves. They are often magnificent 'sound and light displays' of thunder, hail, heavy rain and lightning.

This worksheet provides the outline for a script for a storm. Your task is to create the soundtrack that accompanies it, working in groups of four or five. (Note that the presentation includes a reading of the script.) Decide how you will present the finished work to the class (for example, in person, on a cassette tape, on a videotape or as a CD-ROM). Most of the sounds can be created using voices or readily available materials such as tins, buckets, small pebbles, running water, masonite boards and, of course, your imagination.



### Script

1. It is a hot summer evening and the air is abuzz with insect calls.
2. In the distance, a roll of thunder gently rumbles.
3. The thunder is getting closer now. Shrill bird calls warn of its advance.
4. A wind springs up, playfully rustling the trees. Doors slam shut. There's a storm coming.
5. This rustle is now a *rat-tat-tat-tat* as the wind gets wilder. A bough has just broken off and landed on my roof. Light rain is pattering ... now it's heavy plops. The thunder rolls are longer and louder.
6. A fork of lightning tears through the sky ahead of a deafening crack of thunder that then rumbles and growls like an angry giant. It frightens me.
7. The rain is pouring down, lashed by a furious, howling wind.
8. Why are the heavens so mad with the Earth? The thunder seems to barely stop, and now there is hammering hail, blending with the wail of wind and the pelting rain.
9. Listen! ... I think it's nearly over. It's only the pouring rain now ... No. There was another thunder roll — but in the distance.
10. It has gone; just the drip of rain from the trees. And wait ... hear that? The birds are calling again. What a thunderstorm that was!
11. [Silence, with just the slow drip of water from the trees.]



*Atlas of Discovery*, pp. 12–13;  
a range of simple utensils and resources (e.g. water and pebbles) to make sounds; audio or video recording equipment from your school library or elsewhere (optional)