

Bushfire Education

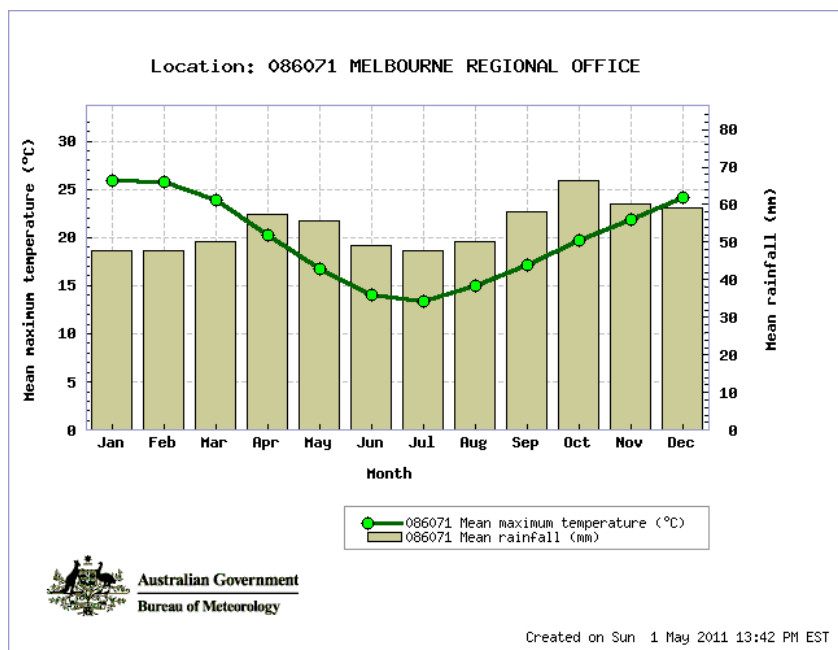


Task sheet: Expert group 2 – Climate

How does climate influence bushfire?

Climate refers to the average, or typical, weather conditions observed over a long period of time for a given area.

- 1 The climate before the 2009 bushfires included twelve consecutive years of below-average rainfall across the state. Draw and describe the effect that this climate would have had on vegetation. Make sure you use at least three adjectives to describe the vegetation.
- 2 Use the climate graph for Melbourne (below) to answer the following questions:
 - a Which months have the highest rainfall?
 - b Is the temperature warming up or cooling down during this time?
 - c Considering that plants need both water and warmth to grow, when will plant growth be at its greatest?
 - d When is the fire season in the Melbourne region?



Source: Climate Data Online

www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/ Bureau of Meteorology

- 3 Describe the relationship between the growing season and the fire season. Explain why this pattern exists.