

Fire Tornado



Fire tornadoes form when very intense heat from a fire rises and surrounding air rushes in to replace it. This creates a spinning column of air. Fire tornadoes usually form near mountains or hillsides where unpredictable cross winds. A fire tornado can toss around embers and more fire, making them very dangerous to firefighters. Students can use this phenomenon to investigate weather and air currents or to explore land management in prevention of forest fires.

Additional Resources

- Video [Firenado forms in Idaho](#)
- Boise State Public Radio article ['Firenado' Takes Off During Recent Wildfire](#)
- National Geographic article [Giant Fire Tornado Whirls Above Idaho's Soda Blaze](#)

Performance Standards

Kindergarten	3 rd Grade	Middle School	High School
<p>K-ESS-2.2. Ask questions to obtain information about the purpose of weather forecasting to prepare for, and respond to, severe weather.</p> <p>K-ESS-2.3. Communicate solutions that will reduce the impact of humans on the land, water, air, and/or other living things in the local environment.</p>	<p>3-ESS-2.1. Make a claim about the merit of a design solution that reduces the impacts of a weather-related hazard.</p>	<p>MS-ESS-2.5. Collect data to provide evidence for how the motions and complex interactions of air masses results in changes in weather conditions.</p> <p>MS-ESS-3.2. Analyze and interpret data on natural hazards to forecast future catastrophic events and inform the development of technologies to mitigate their effects.</p>	<p>HS-ESS-3.1. Construct an explanation based on evidence for how the availability of natural resources, occurrence of natural hazards, and changes in climate have influenced human activity.</p>



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